

January 31, 2012

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Prince Edward County Vo-Tech Center, 1419 Zion Hill Road, Farmville, Virginia, on Tuesday the 31st day of January, 2012; at 5:30 p.m., there were present:

Board of Supervisors

William G. Fore, Jr., Chairman
Howard F. Simpson, Vice Chairman
Howard M. Campbell
Pattie Cooper-Jones
Don C. Gantt
Robert M. Jones
Charles W. McKay
Jim R. Wilck

School Board

Russell L. Dove, Chairman
Osa Sue Dowdy
Harriett Fentress
Susan S. Lawman
Linda L. Leatherwood
Dr. Ellery Sedgwick
Thomas M. Tillerson.
Lawrence C. Varner

Also present: Wade Bartlett, County Administrator; Dr. K. David Smith, Superintendent; and Cindy Wahrman, Division Director of Finance.

Chairman Fore called the special meeting to order as a joint meeting with the Prince Edward County School Board.

Chairman Dove called the School Board meeting to order.

Ms. Cindy Wahrman, Division Director of Finance, reviewed the Governor's Proposed Budget and summarized the anticipated FY13 budget challenges:

- Average Daily Membership (ADM) reduction
- State revenue decrease of \$862,999; Federal decrease of \$904,751
- Virginia Retirement System (VRS) – expected 6.57% increase (\$876,000)
- Health insurance costs increasing – expected 10% (\$170,400)
- Proposed salary increase of 2% (\$340,000)
- Overall discrepancy - \$2,249,399 for the school system

Ms. Wahrman then reviewed the Federal Funding reductions.

Mr. Wade Bartlett, County Administrator, asked for clarification on the Average Daily Membership (ADM), with the school expecting a drop of 50 for next year. Dr. Smith said they are forecasting where enrollment will go; more study on trends is necessary. Discussion followed.

Mr. Bartlett then asked about the Federal Funds lost; he asked if those programs being moved to the regular budget will now be funded with local dollars. Dr. Smith said for everything that is marked to be transferred to another line in the budget, that line has to be adjusted also. He said what is being proposed is each stage is reviewed to see what reductions can be made there, and to decide to continue the activities or programs that are funded by those dollars. When the stimulus money and jobs funds were awarded, it caused a re-ordering of priorities to take advantage of the funds. Now the reverse is happening and another re-ordering of priorities is necessary.

Supervisor Wilck requested information on the Cambridge Program. Dr. Smith said any change in continuity has an impact on the teachers and students; there are apparent benefits. The required changes are paid for by Federal turn-around funds. When the program ends, the positions created will be lost. The school must be moved towards self-sufficiency; that is part of the planning.

Supervisor Wilck asked why there have been three representatives. Dr. Smith said the first representative left after a short time; the replacement person is a Henrico County retired principal. Discussion followed. The program is targeted to high schools. There has been documented progress made in SOLs and in attendance.

Supervisor Cooper-Jones asked about the elementary school's policy on low grades and promotion to the next grade. She gave an example and said something needs to be done. Dr. Smith said it's a combination of the local and state policies; he said there is on-going discussion about the evidence that does not support retention – students that move from one grade level to the next, especially in the core areas, will suffer in the next grade level. Instead of mass retention, specific remediation and intervention in core skill needs are targeted. More time is spent on elementary and middle school level students on the intervention efforts.

Mr. Bartlett asked about the Local Choice Health Insurance. Supervisor Gantt suggested exploring options on self-insuring which would help maintain a steady benefit level. Discussion followed. Board members suggested the County Administrator and Dr. Smith meet to discuss action that could be taken to consolidate the insurance. Dr. Smith said that changes made in health care, whether it's self-insurance or working with providers to roll back costs, those dollars come from the employees, and it's hard when there's been no pay raises in a few years. It could be beneficial but it needs further study.

Mr. Bartlett advised the School Board of the constraints of the Board of Supervisors of providing additional funds. He said the requested \$2.2 million increase in school funding would result in an approximately 15-cent tax

increase. The General Fund as it exists today cannot absorb such a large increase without a tax increase. Mr. Bartlett added there are cuts across the state, including school funding. Discussion followed.

Dr. Smith said if the Board level-funds the schools, because of the reductions it would not be level-funded. Mr. Bartlett stated level-funding would be to maintain the expenditures that are continuous. Dr. Smith said they are early in their process; there will be some reductions but if the full \$2 million is not found the students in classrooms will be affected. Teaching positions, programs and certain electives would need to be eliminated.

School Board Chairman Dove recessed their meeting at this time.

In Re: Closed Session

Supervisor Gantt made a motion that the Board convene in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of real property related to the Alternate Route 628 road project, pursuant to the exemption provided for in Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the *Code of Virginia*; the motion carried:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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The Board returned to regular session by motion of Supervisor McKay and adopted as follows:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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On motion of Supervisor Cooper-Jones and carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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The following Certification of Closed Meeting was adopted in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act:

WHEREAS, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this Board of Supervisors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Simpson made a motion to authorize advertisement of a public hearing, as required by Section 15.2-2507 of the *Code of Virginia*, on Tuesday, February 14, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., in the Board of Supervisors Room, 111 South Street, Third Floor, Farmville, Virginia, to gather citizen input prior to considering proposed amendments to the FY12 County Budget; the motion carried:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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On motion of Supervisor Cooper-Jones and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Howard M. Campbell Pattie Cooper-Jones William G. Fore, Jr. Don C. Gantt, Jr. Robert M. Jones Charles W. McKay Howard F. Simpson Jim R. Wilck	Nay: None
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the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.