

October 22, 2020

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2020; at 5:30 p.m., there were present:

Beverly M. Booth

Pattie Cooper-Jones

J. David Emert

Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.

Robert M. Jones

Odessa H. Pride

Jerry R. Townsend

James R. Wilck

Also present: Sarah Elam Puckett, Acting County Administrator; Ron Van Eps, Public Works Director, and Cheryl Stimpson, Human Resources.

Chairman Townsend called the special meeting to order.

Supervisor Booth offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Townsend stated:

*Due to the COVID-19 Emergency, the Board of Supervisors is operating pursuant to and in compliance with its "EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO EFFECTUATE TEMPORARY CHANGES IN CERTAIN DEADLINES AND TO MODIFY PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES TO ADDRESS CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PANDEMIC DISASTER." This meeting is closed to in-person participation by the General Public, but citizens may listen to the meeting by calling 1-844-890-7777, Access Code: 390313.*

Chairman Townsend said:

*I wish to recognize that Supervisor Robert M. Jones is with us this evening via remote telephone access. As required by the Board of Supervisors' Electronic Meeting Policy and Section 2.2-3708.2 of the Code of*

*Virginia, Supervisor Jones provided notice that he would have to be physically absent from tonight's Board meeting, because of a previous engagement. He has requested remote participation in tonight's Board meeting from 3286 Poor House Road, Rice, VA. His request is in conformance with the Board's Electronic Meeting Policy and the requirements of the Code of Virginia.*

*Pending an objection from a member of this Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Jones's participation from his remote location in Rice, Virginia, shall be approved, and shall be recorded in the minutes of this meeting.*

There were no objections by the Board of Supervisors members.

In Re: Buildings and Grounds Update

Mr. Ron Van Eps, Buildings and Grounds Director, stated that both he and Jeff Jones would like to apologize to the Board of Supervisors and the citizens of the Prince Edward County for the reduction of services at the recycling sites. He said the County was without trucks for about two weeks; in addition, one driver suffered a health emergency on Monday. This individual spent time in the hospital but has been released; he is in good spirits and is doing well, but we are not sure if or when he will return to work.

Mr. Van Eps said the County has received the International truck back [from the mechanic] and it is in operation. The new driver, Daniel Townsend, will be starting work Monday, October 26.

Mr. Van Eps reported a lot of the sites have been caught up; he said the only remaining issues are the tire bins and cardboard bins at Green Bay and Darlington Heights sites. He said all the plastic has been caught up, the cardboard is empty at the other sites, the trash bins were empty as of earlier today and another sweep will be done tomorrow to make sure it is clear for the weekend. He hopes to get a few of the bins at Green Bay and Darlington Heights [emptied] as well.

Mr. Van Eps stated two applicants are being reviewed for a position for the Heavy Machine Operators at the landfill, and possibly a third. He said the first review of those applications is November 2, 2020.

Mr. Van Eps then stated an employee at the Prospect site had been turning people away because every bin there was overfilled. He said he has given this individual some direction if this situation happens again.

Supervisor Jones left the meeting at this time.

Mrs. Puckett commended Mr. Van Eps and Mr. Jeff Jones; the whole team has put in an extraordinary effort this week; Mr. Van Eps has been driving the trash truck all week, working with his men. She said all of them, including those at the landfill, have put in extra hours to bring everything back in line to the satisfaction that the Board would expect. She said while these situations were completely beyond their control, they were taking personal responsibility for getting it back to standards. Mrs. Puckett personally thanked them and congratulated them for a job well done, and for understanding the urgency of getting the sites back to the standard that the Board of Supervisors and citizens have come to expect. She said Mr. Van Eps and his staff deserve our appreciation for the job they have done this week.

Mr. Van Eps said when the truck driver was having his health emergency, a co-worker was very adamant that he go to the hospital; when they arrived at the hospital, the hospital staff stated if he would have stayed at the landfill another ten minutes, his outcome could have been much worse.

Chairman Townsend asked if one of the trucks breaks down in the future, would the County be able to lease a truck. Mr. Van Eps said that he tried to do so in the past, but they are difficult to locate; he said there only two hook-lift trucks in the state of Virginia that could be purchased and none that could be rent or lease. Mr. Van Eps said the hook-lift truck is not the most popular truck, but is far better for our drivers because they are not required to throw a very heavy cable around the bins, and can normally do most of it from within the cab. He said their health and well-being is why he chose that type of truck initially and stays with it.

In Re: Closed Session

Chairman Townsend made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Emert, that the Board convene in Closed Session for discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for employment for the position of County Administrator, pursuant to the exemption provided for in Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the *Code of Virginia*; the motion carried:

Aye: Beverly M. Booth  
Pattie Cooper-Jones  
J. David Emert  
Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.  
Odessa H. Pride  
Jerry R. Townsend  
James R. Wilck  
Absent: Robert M. Jones  
Nay: None

The Board returned to regular session by motion of Supervisor Townsend, seconded by Supervisor Wilck and adopted as follows:

Aye: Beverly M. Booth  
Pattie Cooper-Jones  
J. David Emert  
Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.  
Robert M. Jones  
Odessa H. Pride  
Jerry R. Townsend  
James R. Wilck  
Absent: Robert M. Jones  
Nay: None

On motion of Supervisor Emert, and seconded by Supervisor Cooper-Jones, and carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Beverly M. Booth  
Pattie Cooper-Jones  
J. David Emert  
Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.  
Odessa H. Pride  
Jerry R. Townsend  
James R. Wilck  
Absent: Robert M. Jones  
Nay: None

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 Wilck made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cooper-Jones, to approve the contract for the County Administrator as written; the motion carried:

Aye:	Beverly M. Booth Pattie Cooper-Jones J. David Emert Llew W. Gilliam, Jr. Odessa H. Pride Jerry R. Townsend James R. Wilck	Nay: None
Absent:	Robert M. Jones	

Supervisor Emert made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Cooper-Jones, to authorize the Chair to execute said contract; the motion carried:

Aye:	Beverly M. Booth Pattie Cooper-Jones J. David Emert Llew W. Gilliam, Jr. Odessa H. Pride Jerry R. Townsend James R. Wilck	Nay: None
Absent:	Robert M. Jones	

Chairman Townsend introduced Prince Edward County's newly appointed County Administrator, Douglas P. Stanley.

Mr. Stanley stated:

“Chairman Townsend, members of this Board, I want to thank each one of you personally for giving me the opportunity to be the next County Administrator for Prince Edward County. I look forward to working with you, to carry out your vision for the future of this great county, improving our tax base, providing jobs for our citizens. Prince Edward is known for the hard work and dedication of its very capable staff, and I look forward to continuing the standard that has been set by my predecessors. My family, of course my wife Jenny and my son Whill are here and my daughter is down the road at UVA; we're excited about moving to this community and becoming an active part of it. I hope my past record has shown that I like to go to the community, I like to stay there for a while, I like to be an active participant in it. I think that's what makes a good community. To the staff of Prince Edward County, I look forward to meeting and working with each

one of you in service to the citizens of this county. Thank you very much again for the opportunity and the faith in me to get the job done.”

Chairman Townsend welcomed Mr. Stanley and said that due to the pandemic, caution must be taken but there will be some type of meet-and-greet for the citizens of the County.

Mr. Stanley said that he will attend events in the community for the opportunity to get out and meet people, hear what their concerns and needs are.

Supervisor Cooper-Jones presented items to Mrs. Stanley and Whill to welcome them to the County.

On motion of Supervisor Cooper-Jones, seconded by Supervisor Gilliam, and adopted by the following vote:

Aye:	Beverly M. Booth	Nay:	None
	Pattie Cooper-Jones		
	J. David Emert		
	Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.		
	Odessa H. Pride		
	Jerry R. Townsend		
	James R. Wilck		
Absent:	Robert M. Jones		

the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.