

August 4, 2022

At the special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County, held at the Court House, thereof, on Thursday, the 4th day of August, 2022; at 5:30 p.m., there were present:

Pattie Cooper-Jones
J. David Emert
Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.,
Odessa H. Pride
Carol R. Stiff
Jerry R. Townsend
Cannon Watson

Also present: Douglas P. Stanley, County Administrator; Sarah Elam Puckett, Assistant County Administrator; and Terri Atkins Wilson, County Attorney.

Chairman Pride called the special meeting to order.

Chairman Pride stated:

Due to the COVID-19 Emergency, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors is operating pursuant to and in compliance with its "EMERGENCY CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS ORDINANCE." Effective August 1, 2021, the Board has re-opened meetings to in-person participation by the public; however, there could still be limited available seating. Citizens are strongly encouraged to participate in meetings through in-person participation, written comments, and/or remote participation by calling: 1-844-890-7777, Access Code: 390313 (If busy, please call again.) Additionally, citizens may view the Board meeting live in its entirety at the County's YouTube Channel, the link to which is provided on the County's website.

Chair Pride offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Pride stated:

I wish to recognize that Board Member Cannon Watson is participating 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 Watson has provided notice that he would have to be physically absent from tonight's meeting, due to long-planned family vacation. He has requested remote participation in tonight's meeting from his hotel room in the Dominican Republic. 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, Supervisor Watson's participation shall be approved, and noted in the minutes of this meeting.

In Re: Closed Session

Chairman Pride made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Townsend, that the Board convene in Closed Session for discussion and consideration of the applications for the appointment to fill the District 1 seat on the Board of Supervisors, pursuant to the exemption provided for in Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the *Code of Virginia*; the motion carried:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones J. David Emert Llew W. Gilliam, Jr. Odessa H. Pride Carol R. Stiff Jerry R. Townsend Cannon Watson	Nay: None
------	--	-----------

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

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones J. David Emert Llew W. Gilliam, Jr. Odessa H. Pride Carol R. Stiff Jerry R. Townsend Cannon Watson	Nay: None
------	--	-----------

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

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones J. David Emert Llew W. Gilliam, Jr. Odessa H. Pride Carol R. Stiff Jerry R. Townsend Cannon Watson	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.

In Re: Board Vacancy – District 1

At its July 15, 2022 special meeting, the Board authorized the County Attorney to file the petition for a Writ of Election from the Prince Edward County Circuit Court for a special election to be held on November 8, 2022 and authorized County staff to advertise for applicants for an interim appointment to fill the vacancy for the District 1 (Farmville) seat on the Board of Supervisors.

A public notice was advertised in The Herald and placed on the County's website and Facebook page asking for any resident and qualified voter of District 1, who wishes to be considered, to complete and return a Board of Supervisors Vacancy - Citizen Application to the County Administrator's Office by no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 29, 2022. A press release was also issued.

To date the County has received a total of two (2) applications for the seat. Based on the 45-day time limit, the Board must make an appointment by August 19, 2022.

Upon appointment, this individual will serve on the Board of Supervisors and exercise all powers of the elected office until the Special Election to fill the vacancy is held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 and the person so elected has qualified. Supervisor Booth's term of office would have ended December 31, 2023. The individual elected in the special election for District 1 will serve until December 31, 2023 and is then eligible to run for re-election in the November 2023 election, if they so choose.

Supervisor Cooper-Jones made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Gilliam, to appoint Dr. Peter Gur as District 1 Supervisor to fill the interim position on the Board of Supervisors and hold office until the vacancy is filled by special election and the person so elected has qualified; the motion carried:

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay: None
	J. David Emert	
	Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.	
	Odessa H. Pride	
	Carol R. Stiff	
	Jerry R. Townsend	
	Cannon Watson	

Dr. Peter Gur will fill the District 1 interim position on the Board of Supervisors and hold office until the vacancy is filled by special election and the person so elected has qualified.

Supervisor Gilliam asked if there has been any response from the Schools regarding the school buses. Mr. Stanley stated the Accomack County Schools applied for and received 19 electric-powered buses through a program;

he said there is a meeting scheduled with the and the architect for the Schools will be attending the Board's regular meeting next week. Discussion followed.

Chair Pride announced she will be holding a Town Hall Meeting in her district on Thursday, September 29, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in Crawley Hall on the Hampden Sydney College campus. She said everyone is invited to attend.

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

Aye:	Pattie Cooper-Jones	Nay: None
	J. David Emert	
	Llew W. Gilliam, Jr.	
	Odessa H. Pride	
	Carol R. Stiff	
	Jerry R. Townsend	
	Cannon Watson	

the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.