VIRGINIA: A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE SURRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026, AT 6:00 PM.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE, CHAIRMAN
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY, VICE-CHAIR
SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM T. CALHOUN
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ZARIAH HARRELL

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: MS. MELISSA ROLLINS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MS. LOLA PERKINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
MR. DAVID HARRISON, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MR. DELON BROWN, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
MS. SHARNA WHITE – REGISTRAR
MR. RAY PHELPS, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
MR. HORACE WADE, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
MS. RENEE CHAPLIN, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MS. HALEY KEENE, SENIOR PLANNER
MS. ROBIN FAULKS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

<u>Invocation</u>

The invocation was given by Minister Joan Brown of Saint Paul Holiness Church.

<u>Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance/Adopt Agenda</u>

The meeting was called to order by County Administrator, Melissa D. Rollins, who then asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, she asked those present to stand and recite the pledge of allegiance. She asked for a Motion to adopt the agenda. Supervisor Pierce made a motion to accept the agenda and Supervisor Elliott seconded the motion. All present voted affirmatively. ***(Approved)***

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	**AYE**

SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW	**AYE**

<u>January 2026 Board Reorganization and Discussion</u>

1. Nomination/Election of Chair

Mrs. Rollins stated that being the first meeting of 2026, according to the Bylaws, this was the organizational meeting of the Board of Supervisors. The first item of business was election of Chair and Vice Chair.

Mrs. Rollins opened the floor to nominations for Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

Dr. Elliott nominated Mr. Pierce for the position of Chair.

Mr. Calhoun nominated himself for the position of Chair.

Mrs. Rollins asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, she closed the floor to nominations for Chair. She called the vote to elect Supervisor Pierce as Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	**NAY**
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW	**AYE**

Mrs. Rollins confirmed that Supervisor Pierce was elected Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

2. Nomination/Election of Vice-Chairman

Chairman Pierce asked if there were nominations for Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

Mr. Calhoun nominated himself for the position of Vice Chair.

Dr. Elliott nominated Mr. Hardy for the position of Vice Chair.

Chairman Pierce asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, he closed the floor to nominations for Vice Chair. He called the vote to elect Supervisor Calhoun as Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	**NAY**
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	**NAY**

SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN AYE
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY NAY
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW NAY

Chairman Pierce called the vote to elect Supervisor Hardy as Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR. AYE
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE AYE
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN NAY
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY AYE
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW AYE

Chairman Pierce confirmed that Supervisory Hardy was elected Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2026.

3. Adoption of Bylaws

Chairman Pierce asked the Board if there were any questions, comments, or suggested amendments regarding the Bylaws.

Mr. Calhoun recommended the Board to amend the Bylaws in Section 8, Elections. He said that he would like to revise this section so that each District would have a leadership role. He explained that the previous year's Vice Chair would move on to serve as Chair and then a new Vice Chair would be elected.

Lola Perkins, County Attorney, clarified that there will have to be a vote to elect a Chair every year. She said that there could be a rotating list, but the positions could not be automatically filled. She said that Robert's Rules of Order and the Board's Bylaws required this.

Mr. Calhoun made a motion to revise the Bylaws so that each District was represented in a leadership role in the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. Therefore, each year, the previous year's Vice Chair would be elected as Chair and a new Vice Chair would be elected.

Ms. Perkins recommended that staff draft Mr. Calhoun's suggested language into more formal language for the Board to consider incorporating into the Bylaws. She said that if amenable, she would ask the Board to table adoption of the Bylaws until their next meeting.

Chairman Pierce asked if the Board needed to approve the Bylaws during this organizational meeting of the Board.

Ms. Perkins replied that the Board must take action on the Bylaws. She said that in order to appropriately consider the amendment suggested by Mr. Calhoun, she would recommend that the Board table the item, which would comply with taking action. She said that however, it was at the Board's discretion.

Mr. Calhoun said that he would like to make another recommendation for amending the Bylaws. He said that he would like to clarify whether the "five days to publish agenda" was five business days or five calendar days.

Ms. Perkins answered that in the absence of specificity, the legal default would refer to calendar days. She said that if the Board desired to create that clarity, they could certainly change the language to be more specific.

Chairman Pierce said that he felt Ms. Perkins' explanation was clarity enough.

Ms. Perkins added that she had another change she would like to recommend to the Board. She said that on page 7, section B2, the State Code related to this section had recently changed and therefore the Board's Bylaws should be amended to align with that State Code.

Dr. Elliott asked if the change referred to what was highlighted in red.

Ms. Perkins confirmed that was correct.

Mr. Hardy made a motion to approve the Bylaws as presented. Mr. Drew seconded the motion.

Mr. Calhoun asked if the Board was going to table the Bylaws until the next meeting.

Chairman Pierce said that there had been no motion to table.

Mr. Calhoun made a substitute motion to table the Bylaws in order to allow staff time to draft language based on his requested amendments to the Bylaws.

Chairman Pierce said that there was no second to Mr. Calhoun's motion, so the motion died and the original motion remained. He called the vote on the motion to approve the Bylaws as presented.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	**NAY**
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW	**AYE**

4. 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule

Chairman Pierce asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the 2026 Schedule, which had been previously provided to all of the Board members.

Mr. Hardy said that he would not ask to amend the calendar this evening, but he would like to suggest that the Board consider coordinating with the School Division to engage students to participate in their December meeting this year. He said that he would like to provide the opportunity for their youth to attend the meeting.

Chairman Pierce recommended that the January 7, 2027 organizational meeting of the Board be added to the schedule.

Chairman Pierce asked for a Motion to approve the 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule, with the addition of the January 7, 2027 meeting date.

Mr. Hardy made a motion to approve the 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule with the addition of the January 7, 2027 meeting date. Mr. Drew seconded the motion.

SUPERVISOR ROBERT ELLIOTT, JR.	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR BREYON PIERCE	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR WILLIAM (TIM) CALHOUN	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR WALTER HARDY	**AYE**
SUPERVISOR CAMERAN DREW	**AYE**

Chairman Pierce confirmed the 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule had been adopted.

Consent Items

1. Approval of Draft Minutes – November 6, 2025
2. Approval of Draft Minutes – December 4, 2025
3. 2026 Holiday/Pay Calendar
4. FY25-26 Budget Amendment – General Fund (Planning Permit Fee Revenue - $65,829)
5. Approval of Draft Work Session Minutes – April 10, 2025

Chairman Pierce read the items listed for consent and asked Board members if any items needed to be pulled for discussion. There being none, Mr. Hardy made a motion to approve the consent items as enumerated, and to add a Resolution to honor the prior Chair of the Board. Mr. Drew seconded the motion.
Vote (Approved):
Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Drew
Nays: None

Mr. Hardy presented on behalf of the Board a Resolution Commending Dr. Robert Elliott, Jr. for his service as Chair of the Surry County Board of Supervisors.

Dr. Elliott accepted the Resolution and thanked his colleagues for the recognition. He stated that it had been a pleasure serving as Chair this past year and he looked forward to continuing the Board's work to move Surry County forward.

Public Comments

1. Roberta Hammel, Claremont District –expressed concern regarding lack of uniformity in most recent property reassessments

2. Brian Hammel, Claremont District – expressed concern regarding inconsistency in recent reassessment values as well as increased tax rates
3. Kimberly Bailey, Bacon's Castle District – proposed an ordinance to prohibit the discharge of firearms in residential areas
4. Charlome Pierce, Bacon's Castle District – thanked County staff for sending out the rebates; asked if a third party group or review board could provide guidance or feedback on the recent assessments; agreed that something must be done to address shooting guns in residential areas and ensure safety of residents
5. Susan Corvello, Claremont District – expressed her appreciation for the County's inclusion of FOIA request summaries in the Board's meeting reports; however, she wanted to note that the summaries should include the response to the request for full clarity. She also requested the Board to include the Accounts Payable report in the Board materials, which they used to do.
6. Paul Miller, Claremont District – asked the Board to consider the assessment procedures they utilized, as he did not think they were effective or accurate

New Business

1. Resolution to approve YMCA recommendation of Architectural Firm and Construction Management Firm

Melissa Rollins, County Administrator introduced Chief Administrator and Strategy Officer Skip Ferbee and Adam Klutts, President and CEO of YMCA of Virginia Peninsula.
Adam Klutts, President and CEO of the YMCA of the Virginia Peninsulas, provided an overview of the process and recommendation for a construction manager and architect services for the development of a Surry County YMCA. He explained that Grow Development created the request for qualifications and proposals were returned to the YMCA on December 5. Then, they conducted interviews and scored the potential firms. He stated that the YMCA had selected W.M Jordan Construction Company as the construction manager and Guernsey Tingle Architects as the architect.

Board Action: Chairman Pierce asked for motion on the Proposed Resolution to approve the YMCA recommendation of Architectural Firm and Construction Management Firm. Supervisor Elliott moved for approval of **the Resolution to approve YMCA recommendation of Architectural Firm and Construction Management Firm**, and Supervisor Hardy seconded the motion.

Vote: 5:0 (Approved)
Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Drew
Nays: None

County Administrator's Report

1. Department/Team Member Recognition – Mrs. Rollins recognized Haley Keene, Senior Planner, and Delon Brown, Deputy County Administrator of Operations and Infrastructure for their outstanding dedicated service to the County.
2. FY26-27 Budget Calendar – Mrs. Rollins reported that also provided to the Board was the 2026-2027 Budget Calendar. They would be working on the budget throughout the coming months.

Mrs. Rollins stated that also provided was the 2026 Legislative Agenda from the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), which included priorities the HRPDC was sharing to the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) to raise during the General Assembly session this year.

Mrs. Rollins wished their Administrative Assistant Ms. Robin Faulk a very happy birthday.

Board Comments

Dr. Elliott – assured the public that the comments given tonight were taken to heart, and the Board would act accordingly to resolve the issues presented. He thanked the Board and staff for the Resolution and plaque given to him today. He said that it took someone with a heart for the people to serve as Chair, and he could attest that he would continue to serve diligently to promote constructive progress in the County of Surry. He thanked everyone again for the accolades tonight and he looked forward to working with his fellow Board members. He wished Chairman Pierce nothing but success in his role, and extended the same wishes to Mr. Hardy in his position as Vice Chair.

Mr. Calhoun – thanked the citizens who gave public comment this evening regarding the assessments and reassessments of property. He said that he had received a few phone calls on that same subject, as well. He said that he also wanted to thank the citizens who voiced concern about shooting firearms in residential areas, because that was certainly a serious concern. He said that the Board and Sheriff's Office should find a solution and an ordinance may prevent that issue from happening any further. He stated that he looked forward to the 2026 year and thanked everyone for coming to tonight's meeting. He wished everyone a great evening.

Mr. Drew – congratulated Chairman Pierce on his appointment and to Mr. Hardy on his appointment as Vice Chair. He thanked Dr. Elliott for his service as Chair. He wished everyone a Happy New Year, and he was excited to see all the people in attendance at tonight's meeting. He thanked the citizens who gave public comment tonight, as he thought it was great to see citizens so engaged. He said that he was glad that people brought up the real estate assessments, because it seemed like it was a big issue throughout the County. He said that the concerns around shooting guns was also something the County needed to look into, so he appreciated that it was brought to the Board's attention. He noted that the YMCA had recently provided schematic designs for the new building, and it looked like a very high-tech and wonderful design that would provide many new opportunities for citizens of all ages. He reminded everyone that in Richmond, the General Assembly session was now underway, with 58 days remaining. He encouraged everyone to engage with their representatives on local issues, which for Surry were Delegate Kimberly Pope Adams and Senator Lashrecse Aird.

Mr. Hardy – thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and said that he agreed with his colleagues' previous comments. He thanked Dr. Elliott for his leadership and mentorship to everyone and congratulated Chairman Pierce on his election. He expressed deep gratitude to the citizens who gave public comment tonight; the Board needed this kind of direct citizen engagement to discuss issues and their effects on everyone in the County. He acknowledged the

County needed to look into the issues raised and provide feedback. He agreed it was not a perfect process and they would identify the best path forward to resolve any issues. He stated that in regards to the comments about safety concerns regarding firearms in residential areas, he was glad the Sheriff's Office had responded but it appeared there was more that needed to be done to ensure everyone felt safe in their own homes. He encouraged citizens to call the Sheriff's Office each and every time there was concerning discharge of firearms so they could have a full record. He stated that there were a lot of good things ahead of them this year and he was looking forward to it. He noted that his motto this year was that he wanted the County to transition from reliance to resilience, meaning they would move from reliance on taxpayers to diversify their streams of tax revenue in order to achieve greater resilience as a locality.

Chairman Pierce – thanked his colleagues for their comments. He echoed the sentiment that he was very appreciative of the public comments provided tonight and for the other citizens in attendance, in person and at home. He expressed his gratitude to his colleagues for electing him as Chair of the Board and entrusting him to lead the Board for the 2026 year. He thanked Dr. Elliott for all of his years of service as Chair. He thanked Coach Bear for preparing him to run meetings in this manner. He expressed his appreciation for the public comments they received this evening, and agreed that the Board would look into the issues mentioned and find a way to improve the quality of life for all Surry citizens. He said that it saddened him to hear that Ms. Bailey was still dealing with concerning firearm usage in her own home, and he believed all of the Board members wanted to resolve that quality-of-life issue. He thanked the YMCA representatives for making their presentation, and the visuals provided were very exciting. He stated that he looked forward to serving in the capacity of Chair this year and working closely with Mrs. Rollins and staff to ensure the work of the Board was in the best interest of all Surry County citizens. He asked the public for their continued support and to please provide feedback so the Board could continue to improve on delivering the best quality of life to everyone.
Dr. Elliott added that there was a comment regarding the Accounts Payable report, and he wanted to clarify that it did not require an official vote of the Board.

Reports

1. FOIA Request Summary – December 2025
2. Surry County Building Official's Office Monthly Report – December 2025
3. Surry County Inspection Performance By District and Pass/Fail Rate – December 2025

Chairman Pierce enumerated the reports and asked if there were any questions or comments.

For Your Information

1. Crater Regional Health Improvement Plan - 2025

Chairman Pierce asked if there were any comments or questions on the provided Crater Regional Health Improvement Plan for 2025.

Adjournment

Chairman Pierce asked for a motion for adjournment to January 21, 2026, 3:00 p.m. for a joint work session with the School Board.

Supervisor Hardy moved, and Supervisor Elliott seconded.
Vote 5:0 (Approved):
Ayes: Mr. Pierce, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Drew
Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the Surry County Government Website:
https://www.surrycountyva.gov/387/Watch-A-Meeting