

**VIRGINIA: AT A WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD IN THE POWHATAN VILLAGE BUILDING AUDITORIUM, 3910 OLD BUCKINGHAM ROAD IN POWHATAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND REMOTELY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS ON MAY 10, 2021, AT 6:30 P.M.**

**Board of Supervisors Present:** David T. Williams, District 1,  
Tom E. Berry, District 2  
Michael W. Byerly, District 3, Vice Chairman  
Bill L. Cox, District 4  
Karin M. Carmack, District 5, Chairman

**Board of Supervisors Absent:** None

**County Staff Present:** Ned Smither, County Administrator  
Bret Schardein, Deputy County Administrator  
Tom Lacheney, County Attorney  
John Wood, Director of Information Technology

**Constitutional Officers Present:** Brad Nunnally, Sheriff

**Guests Present:** None

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Carmack called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

- a. Identify Public Entity members physically and/or electronically present

Mr. Carmack identified the Board members, Mr. Smither, and Mr. Lacheney.

- b. Identify the persons responsible for receiving public comment

County Administration staff will accept emailed comments at [administration@powhatanva.gov](mailto:administration@powhatanva.gov). Any comments received until 6:30 pm, on the day of the meeting will be entered into the meeting minutes.

- c. Identify opportunities for the public to access the electronic meeting

The public was able to participate in the meeting by using: <https://zoom.us/j/398095011> by computer. Phone access was possible by dialing: US: 1-929-205-6099 or 1-312-626-6799. As always, the public could view the live feed from the County website.

- d. Identify opportunities for the public to participate in such an electronic meeting

The public was able to view and participate in the meeting live with the Zoom meeting link. During the public comment period, members of the public could raise their hands using the zoom controls on their screens, or press \*9 on their phone.

## **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Berry led the Pledge of Allegiance

## **3. Invocation**

Mrs. Carmack led the Invocation

## **4. Requests to Postpone Agenda Items and Additions, Deletions or Changes in the Order of Presentation**

None

## **5. Formal Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Carmack made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

David T. Williams, Tom E. Berry, Michael W. Byerly, Bill L. Cox, Karin M. Carmack voted AYE

**VOTE 5-0  
MOTION Passed**

## **6. County Administrator Updates**

- a. Update of Pocahontas Landmark Center

Mr. Smither stated that the County is redirecting their efforts to the renovation of the Landmark Center to the private sector. The Powhatan Habitat for Humanity organization is currently in one of a three-month due diligence period to determine alternative uses for the facility. Mr. Smither noted that he would keep the Board updated on the planning efforts.

7. **Public Comment** (time limit 3 minutes per individual/5 minutes per group, 30 minutes total time limit that can be extended by the Board)

Chairman Carmack opened the first public comment period.

Ms. Meredith Perry, 2130 Oak Leaf Court, came in support of Mr. Byerly and his asking for transparency. Ms. Perry's comment can be seen in full on the 4:56-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Steve Melchert, 3110 Touman Court, thanked Mr. Byerly for standing up and opposes CRT. Mr. Melchert's comment can be seen in full on the 7:20-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Mary Jo Sheehy, 2217 Lakeview Drive, supports the School's budget used however they deem necessary. Ms. Sheehy's comment can be seen in full on the 10:11-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Kevin Halligan, 6372 Haleford Drive, supports the African American history course. Mr. Halligan's comment can be seen in full on the 13:25-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Jermaine O'Hara, 4828 Powhatan Lakes Road, supports black history curriculum and spoke out against racism in Powhatan. Mr. O'Hara's comment can be seen in full on the 15:23-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Joe Ordia, 3343 South Meadows Circle, spoke in support of Mr. Byerly and the removal of CRT in Powhatan schools. Mr. Ordia's comment can be seen in full on the 17:50-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Don May, 3571 Pineview Drive, spoke against CRT in schools and wants to know what is being taught. Mr. May's comment can be seen in full on the 20:54-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. David Bradley, 765 Clayville Road, supports Mr. Byerly and is against CRT in our curriculum. Mr. Bradley's comment can be seen in full on the 24:20-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Fran Carleton, 2219 Rossen Road, spoke in support of the library and asked to restore funding. Ms. Carleton's comment can be seen in full on the 27:35-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. DaLynn Prince-Jones, 4514 Bell Road, disagreed with Mr. Byerly's statements and spoke out against racism in Powhatan. Ms. Prince-Jones comment can be seen in full on the 33:29-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Chairman Carmack called on a roll call vote to continue comment period.

Mr. Smither conducted a roll call:

Mr. Williams Aye  
Mr. Berry Aye  
Mr. Byerly Aye  
Mr. Cox Aye  
Mrs. Carmack Aye

**VOTE 5-0**  
**MOTION Passed**

Ms. Rebecca Courtwright, 3033 Mill Mount Lane, spoke against Mr. Byerly's comments from the previous meeting. Ms. Courtwright's comment can be seen in full on the 37:09-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. David Bridges, 2966 Edith Lane, spoke of the importance of more than one side of history being taught. Mr. Bridge's comment can be seen in full on the 39:16-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Daryl Griffin, 2756 Dorset Ridge Circle, spoke against CRT and feels as though he's being silenced. Mr. Griffin's comment can be seen in full on the 42:51-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Myra Strong, 2966 Edith Lane, spoke against racism in Powhatan. Ms. Strong's comment can be seen in full on the 45-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Curtis Newton, 2000 Judes Ferry Road, spoke in support of Mr. Byerly and wants to do right by the kids. Mr. Newton's comment can be seen in full on the 46:58-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Niche Jones, 3829 Mill Mount Drive, spoke in reference to Mr. Byerly's comments and will take her issue to the New York Times. Ms. Jones's comment can be seen in full on the 48:56-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Stephanie Sellers, 41303 Bridge Road, is in support of the Board wanting to be cautious with the budget and what we want the schools to look like. Ms. Sellers' comment can be seen in full on the 51:14-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Robin Twofires, 4714 Powhatan Lakes Road, spoke against racism in Powhatan as a Native American. Mr. Twofire's comment can be seen in full on the 52:51-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Fred Cumby, 4300 Steger Creek Drive, spoke in support of Mr. Byerly and transparency. Mr. Cumby's comment can be seen in full on the 53:43-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Alexander Campbell, 3433 Cabra Road, spoke in support of his teachers and their safety. Mr. Campbell's comment can be seen in full on the 55:20-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Elenore Leonard, 1907 Pine Creek Bluff Court, spoke against racism and the picking apart of the budget. Ms. Leonard's comment can be seen in full on the 58:28-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Randall Hall, 355 Antler Pond Drive, spoke in support of Mr. Byerly and against 1619 curriculum. Mr. Hall's comment can be seen in full on the 1:00:52-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Kiara White, 3345 Duke Road, spoke of kindness being taught in schools and against Mr. Byerly's comments from last week. Ms. White's comment can be seen in full on the 1:04:02-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Don Silva-Baur, 1426 Donovan Mill Lane, spoke in favor of the Board questioning the budget and against CRT. Mr. Silva-Baur's comment can be seen in full on the 1:06:18-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Jillian Stocks, 2290 Old Church Road, shared her experiences with CRT in the classrooms. Ms. Stock's comment can be seen in full on the 1:10:29-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Chairman Carmack called on a roll call vote to continue comment period.  
Mr. Smither conducted a roll call:

Mr. Williams Aye  
Mr. Berry Aye  
Mr. Byerly Aye  
Mr. Cox Aye  
Mrs. Carmack Aye

**VOTE 5-0**  
**MOTION Passed**

Ms. Robin Mead, 2500 Butterwood Drive, is glad that parents are taking action in their child's learning and encouraged them to attend the School Board meetings. Ms. Mead's comment can be seen in full on the 1:14:08-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mrs. Terry Stratton, 2940 Lake Louise Drive, spoke in support of Mr. Byerly and against CRT. Mrs. Stratton's comment can be seen in full on the 1:17:10-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Andrew Snead, 2914 Edith Land, spoke for full funding of the schools and would like to see open dialog about social issues. Mr. Snead's comment can be seen in full on the 1:20:30-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Jared Spaugh, 3335 Buckingham Road, spoke against racism in the County. Mr. Spaugh's comment can be seen in full on the 1:23:35-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Molly Bridges, 2966 Edith Lane, asked Powhatan to open their hearts and show kindness to each other. Ms. Bridges comment can be seen in full on the 1:27:20-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Christine Cadigan, spoke against racism in Powhatan. Ms. Cadigan's comment can be seen in full on the 1:29:51-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Shayla Daniels, 4188 Old Buckingham Road, spoke against racism in Powhatan. Ms. Daniel's comment can be seen in full on the 1:33:14-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Karen Rissmeyer, 3523 Richard Drive, spoke against SEL in schools. Ms. Rissmeyer's comment can be seen in full on the 1:35:34-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Mr. Fredrick Cumby, 4300 Steger Creek Drive, spoke about the atmosphere in the High School and supports Mr. Byerly. Mr. Cumby's comment can be seen in full on the 1:38:49-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Amanda Kozak, 3378 Manor Oaks Drive, talked about the importance of unity and figuring out the division for the sake of the kids. Ms. Kozak's comment can be seen in full on the 1:40:15-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Ms. Gale Goodman, 4604 Anderson Highway, supports the African American course and spoke on how racism exists. Ms. Goodman's comment can be seen in full on the 1:41:45-minute mark of the Powhatan County YouTube channel dated 2021-5-10.

Chairman Carmack closed the first public comment period

## **8. Consent Agenda**

- a. Resolution R-2021- 26 Amending the FY21 Operating Budget by Budgeting and Appropriating \$7,347 for Additional Library Grant

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Mrs. Carmack moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

David T. Williams, Tom E. Berry, Michael W. Byerly, Bill L. Cox, Karin M. Carmack voted  
AY E

**VOTE 5-0**  
**MOTION Passed**

**9. Old Business**

- a. Resolution R-2021-23 Adopting the Operating and Capital Budgets for FY22 and Appropriating the Funds Page 9

Mr. Smither presented. He said that tonight they are voting on the operating and capital budgets for FY22.

Mr. Byerly thanked everyone for coming out. He explained that would like to explore the option of moving the transportation department from the School to the County. He asked Mr. Smither to look into that. Mr. Byerly then went over the itemized list Dr. Jones provided for instructional materials. He explained that we use a company called Sanford Harmony that we do not pay for. Mr. Byerly found that after researching the curriculum, that it fit in the critical race theory ideology. Mr. Byerly noted that the teachers do not make the curriculum. He said that teachers will not be creating the African American history course. Mr. Byerly then quoted an email from Dr. Jones, "PCPS will not use unvetted, journalistic resources such as the 1619 Project or BLM in this or any other course. We have no anti-racists or social justice curriculum in PCPL and would like to follow up with the teacher who posted about forming a group on Facebook." Mr. Byerly added that he doesn't think that the Schools should accept the \$2.1 million in Federal money. Mr. Byerly supports the \$127,000 for compression pay to cover positions and compression pay for the County.

Mr. Williams stated that these meetings have gone down two different tracks. Mr. Williams pointed out that the citizens have elected a School Board and that it's their responsibility to create a budget. Mr. Williams stated that he is willing to have discussion with the School Board. He noted that the public comments only go one way. He said that the School Board members need to get out in the community and explain what it is that they are doing. Mr. Williams urged the public to invite their representatives to come speak to them about the questions being raised. Mr. Williams asked Mr. Cox to present a slide. Mr. Cox went over the slide presented that showed the topics of the joint School Board meeting and the impact of the Fund Balance. Mr. Cox highlighted the \$127,000 in compression pay. Mr. Williams stated that he would like to see some of that money elsewhere.

Mr. Smither stated that he and the Library Director met to discuss the positions, and Mrs. Berriman recommended a part-time Youth Services Librarian and hours for substitute positions. The total would come to \$34,000.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt resolution R-2021-23 with two changes. The first is the reduction of the school transfer amount of \$127,000 and the addition of \$34,000 to the library for staffing needs. Mr. Berry seconded the motion.

Chairman Carmack called for a roll call vote.  
Mr. Smither conducted a roll call:

Mr. Williams Aye  
Mr. Berry Aye  
Mr. Byerly Nay  
Mr. Cox Aye  
Mrs. Carmack Aye

**VOTE 4-1**  
**MOTION Passed**

b. Resolution R-2021-24 Fixing the CY22 Real Estate Tax Rate Page 15

Mr. Smither presented. He said that the final step to approving the FY22 Budget and that is the adoption of the \$.79 cent tax rate.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve R-2021-24. Mr. Berry seconded the motion.

Chairman Carmack called for a roll call vote.  
Mr. Smither conducted a roll call:

Mr. Williams Aye  
Mr. Berry Aye  
Mr. Byerly Aye  
Mr. Cox Aye  
Mrs. Carmack Aye

**VOTE 5-0**  
**MOTION Passed**

**10. New Business**

a. Resolution R-2021-25 Approving the Powhatan County Revenue Stabilization Reserve Page 19

Mr. Smither presented. He said that the adoption of the FY21 the Board had created a Revenue Stabilization Fund. The resolution was used but never formally adopted.



Mr. Cox asked for clarification on the language. He stated that the wording will replace ‘the County will maintain’ with ‘the County will maintain a Revenue Stabilization reserve of 3% of the annual adopted General Fund Budget of the prior year, net of the operating transfers to the Schools, plus the Schools Operation Fund Budget’. Mr. Smither noted that it’s saying the same thing, just with greater clarification.

Mr. Cox made a motion to approve the resolution with the amended language. Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Chairman Carmack called for a roll call vote.

Mr. Smither conducted a roll call:

Mr. Williams Aye

Mr. Berry Aye

Mr. Byerly Aye

Mr. Cox Aye

Mrs. Carmack Aye

**VOTE 5-0  
MOTION Passed**

- 10. Public Comment** (time limit 3 minutes per individual/5 minutes per group, 30 minutes total time limit that can be extended by the Board)

Chairman Carmack opened the second public comment period.

Seeing no one come forward, Chairman Carmack closed the second public comment period.

- 11. County Attorney Comments**

None

- 12. County Administrator Comments**

Mr. Smither reminded everyone that the Powhatan Fair is Friday May 14-16.


- 13. Board Comments**

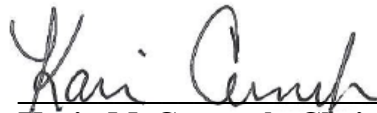
Mrs. Carmack stated that after tonight’s comments that it’s clear that everyone is passionate about their beliefs. Beliefs are forged over a lifetime; none are shared or the same. She said that we can all agree that we want what is best for our students and our community. Issues like this can tear a community apart and let’s not let that happen to Powhatan. Mrs. Carmack stated that hopefully in the not to distant future, the study and retrospective views for history will unite us and divide us.

- 14. Adjournment**

Chairman Carmack adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

These minutes were approved on November 22, 2021, with a motion, second, and 5/0 vote.

  
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**Ned Smither, Clerk**  
**Powhatan County Board of Supervisors**

  
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**Karin M. Carmack, Chairman**  
**Powhatan County Board of Supervisors**

**MLW**

<i>David T. Williams</i>	<b>AYE</b>
<i>Steve McClung</i>	<b>AYE</b>
<i>Michael W. Byerly</i>	<b>AYE</b>
<i>Bill L. Cox</i>	<b>AYE</b>
<i>Karin M. Carmack</i>	<b>AYE</b>