



# County of Powhatan, Virginia

3834 Old Buckingham Road  
Powhatan, VA 23139

## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2023

Contact:

Michael W. Byerly, Chairman of Board of Supervisors, County of Powhatan

Email: [mbyerly@powhatanva.gov](mailto:mbyerly@powhatanva.gov) Phone: (804) 598-5612

---

## Powhatan County Hires County Administrator

**POWHATAN, VA** – The Powhatan County Board of Supervisors announced Monday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, that Bret Schardein will assume the position of County Administrator for Powhatan County starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. He has been serving as Interim County Administrator since the resignation of Ned Smither in October 2022. This was Mr. Schardein’s second term as Interim County Administrator, having filled that role in 2020 as well. Schardein brings over thirteen years of local government experience, the last seven of which were in various roles with Powhatan County including Director of Community Development and Deputy County Administrator. He has worked in other Virginia localities including King William and Cumberland.

Schardein earned his undergraduate degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and his Master of Urban and Regional Planning also from VCU. He also attended the National Association of Counties High Performance Leadership Academy. Mr. Schardein holds certifications from the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials as a Certified Zoning Administrator (CZA). He was the 2021 recipient of the VLGMA Marshaw Memorial Award as an outstanding Deputy County Administrator.



“Bret brings the passion and love for Powhatan County that our citizens share. He has developed excellent relationships and has the respect of his staff, having most recently served as the Powhatan Deputy County Administrator. His experience and knowledge will serve him well as our next County Administrator. I look forward to working alongside Bret and supporting him in his new role as Powhatan County Administrator. Congratulations to Bret, his family, and Powhatan County on this great opportunity!!” stated Michael Byerly, Chairman of the Powhatan County Board of Supervisors.

District 1 Supervisor, David Williams, commented, “Bret enjoys the support of the Board, County staff, and the community. All three are important to us at this time in Powhatan County. I am looking forward to continuing to work with Bret.”

“Bret, in the short time he has been Interim County Administrator, has already made a positive difference and I look forward to his leadership going forward.” remarked District 4 Supervisor Bill Cox.

Mr. Schardein said “I’m so excited to continue working with the citizens, Board of Supervisors, and our amazing staff, to improve our efficiencies and preserve what makes Powhatan such a special place. I’ve enjoyed this role as interim, so greatly appreciate the Board placing their faith in me to take it on full time.”

###