

MOTION:

**August 7, 2012
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 12-**

SECOND:

**RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF ENHANCED RULES OF PROCEDURES FOR
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS OF THE PRINCE
WILLIAM BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS AND THE
CHAIRMAN**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors and the Chairman are obligated to avoid and disclose ethical, legal, financial, or other conflict of interests involving their public duties as public officials; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors and the Chairman are fully committed to the highest levels of integrity and seek at all times to maintain the highest trust of the public in the full transparency of its official actions to assure that the judgment of public officers and their employees is guided by strict adherence to a comprehensive written conflict of interests policy; and

WHEREAS, the general practice of individual Supervisors and/or the Chairman participating in official actions that provide a financial or other benefit to themselves or to organizations with which they have an actual or appearance of a conflict without disclosure or without removing themselves from votes where such conflicts exist could potentially cast doubt on the integrity of that process and undermine citizens' trust of the Board of County Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Prince William County have the absolute right to expect their elected officials to conduct their relationships with each other, County agencies and departments, their personal business interests, outside organizations, community partners, and the general public in a transparent and honest manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors hereby amends its Rules of Procedure to add a new section "J: Conflict of Interests" containing the following provisions, effective on the date of adoption of this resolution.

**August 7, 2012
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 12-
Page Two**

In addition to the applicable provisions of the Conflict of Interests Act in the Code of Virginia, § 2.2-3100, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors enacts the following rules of conduct:

1. The disclosure statement of personal interests, required by Virginia Code § 2.2-3115 filed by the Prince William County Supervisors and the Chairman following the election or reelection, appointment or reappointment, of that elected official shall be published on the Prince William County website under the section entitled "Board of County Supervisors" or within a newly created subsection entitled "Personal Interest Disclosures of Supervisors," with appropriate identifiers to allow the public to easily navigate to the location of and to easily review these documents for each Supervisor or Chairman; and
2. When a Supervisor or the Chairman has a personal interest in any action before the Board, that individual is barred from voting on that action, provided:
 - (a) A Supervisor or the Chairman is deemed to have a personal interest in a transaction when that individual or a member of his or her immediate family, defined as (i) a spouse or (ii) any other person residing in the same household of the Supervisor or Chairman, benefits financially, or when that individual or a member of his or her immediate family serves as an officer or on an advisory committee of any entity that is involved in any action before the Board, provided however;
 - (1) When the individual holds a position with such an entity by appointment of the Board to represent the Board in the official performance of duties and serving the interests of the County, no recusal is required.
 - (2) In every instance, however, where a vote is taken on any issue affecting such an entity, the Board Member shall file a written statement declaring why no conflicts exist for the specific action being proposed for a vote by the Board of County Supervisors.
 - (b) An individual who is barred from voting on any action under consideration, and who is present at the meeting where the action is considered, shall be considered present for the purpose of establishing a quorum at that meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Attorney and the Clerk are hereby directed to update the Rules of Procedure promptly to include these provisions.

**August 7, 2012
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 12-
Page Three**

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent from Vote:

Absent from Meeting:

ATTEST: _____
Clerk to the Board