

Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

Policies

Adopted January 3, 2024

Policies of the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

1. Travel Reimbursement

Supervisors will be reimbursed travel expenses pursuant to uniform standards and procedures that will allow Supervisors to travel for official County business purposes consistent with the prudent use of County funds as follows:

- A. **Routine Travel Expenses.** Supervisors may be reimbursed for the following routine travel expenses at the County's authorized car mileage reimbursement rate, provided there are available funds:
 - 1. **Mileage to Attend Board and Committee Meetings.** Mileage for travel by personal vehicle or other travel costs to scheduled Board meetings and Board committee meetings for committees to which a Supervisor is appointed, from home or work, if a work day, which is not part of routine personal travel. Travel to use the Board's County Office Building office between other personal travel or meetings, is not eligible for reimbursement.
 - 2. **Mileage to Attend Matters within the Board's Responsibilities.** Mileage for travel by personal vehicle or other travel costs to events reasonably necessary to prepare for matters within the Board's responsibilities (e.g., site visits, informational meetings, local ceremonies to which the Supervisor was invited or that is related to a matter in which the Board or the County has an interest) which is not part of routine personal travel.
 - 3. **Mileage to Attend Parades and Other Community Gatherings.** Mileage for travel by personal vehicle or other travel costs to parades and other community gatherings, that are not campaign events, to discuss County business.
- B. **Additional Travel Expenses.** Supervisors may be reimbursed for the following additional travel expenses, provided there are available funds:
 - 1. **Regional, Statewide, and National Meetings.** All necessary, actual, and reasonable meal, travel, and lodging costs (including gratuity and excluding alcohol) of attending regional, statewide or national meetings at which the Supervisor represents the County, as approved by the Board.
 - 2. **Legislative or Congressional Hearings.** All necessary, actual, and reasonable meal, travel, and lodging costs (including gratuity and excluding alcohol) of attending legislative or congressional hearings relating to official County business.
- C. **Matters for Which Supervisors will not be Reimbursed.** Supervisors will not be reimbursed for the following travel expenses:
 - 1. **Political Events.** Travel to events which are political in nature (i.e., campaign or partisan events).
 - 2. **Personal Expenses.** Personal expenses incurred during travel.
 - 3. **Travel Not Part of Duties.** Other travel which is not part of the statutory governmental duties of the Board of Supervisors that are not provided for in Subsections (C)(1) or (C)(2).
- D. **Implementation.** This policy will be applied and overseen in the following manner:
 - 1. **Reimbursement Requests.** Reimbursement requests shall be made in writing on forms

provided by the Clerk of the Board (the "Clerk") and shall itemize the date, number of miles of travel, and purpose of the meeting. Mileage for use of a personal vehicle shall be reimbursed at the County's authorized car mileage reimbursement rate. Other reimbursements shall be for the amount of costs expended and shall be documented by receipts for actual amounts paid.

2. **Clerk Review.** The Clerk, or their designee, will review all travel reimbursement requests and the Chief Financial Officer will approve all travel reimbursement requests prior to reimbursement. No payment will be made for incomplete submissions or information.
3. **Exhaustion of Funds.** When all allocated funds for Board reimbursements have been expended, there will be no further reimbursement for that fiscal year unless the Board appropriates additional funding.

2. Supervisors Appointed to Boards, Committees, and Commissions

The Board appoints its members to a variety of boards, committees, and commissions to represent the interests of the Board on those bodies. It is important that the Board have confidence that its policies and positions are being reflected in that representation.

- A. **Voting Representatives.** Supervisors who are appointed to boards, committees, and commissions are required to vote on matters that come before those bodies in a manner which is consistent with the policies and positions of the Board as reflected in previously adopted resolutions or official actions of the Board on those matters.
- B. **Non-Voting Liaison Representatives.** Supervisors who are appointed to boards, committees, and commissions as non-voting liaisons are to act as a resource for the board, committee, or commission and are to report to the Board on the activities of the board, committee, or commission.
- C. **Alternates.** Supervisors may serve as alternates for the Board-appointed voting representatives or liaison representatives when the representative is unable to attend a meeting. The organizational documents for the board, committee, or commission must allow alternates to be appointed. Any alternate must be appointed by the Board to serve as an alternate for the particular board, committee, or commission.

3. Boards, Commissions, and Committees

A. Review and Creation of Boards, Commissions, and Committees are as Follows:

1. **Annual Report.** By October 1 of each year, all boards, commissions, and committees shall submit a report to the Board covering the prior fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) that includes the key activities that support their mission and a summary of their activities and the attendance of each appointee.
2. **Annual Evaluation.** On an annual basis, the list of active boards, commissions, and committees will be evaluated and purged of all bodies not required by Federal, State, County or other regulations, which have not met at least once during the prior 12-month period.
3. **Combining Functions and Activities.** Whenever possible and appropriate, the functions and activities of boards, commissions, and committees will be combined, rather than encouraging the creation of new bodies.

4. **Short-Term Task Forces and Ad Hoc Committees.** Any newly created task force or ad hoc committee which is intended to serve for a limited duration may be comprised of magisterial or at-large members at the discretion of the Board. The appointment process shall follow that adopted in Section 3(B) for other magisterial and/or at-large positions.

B. Appointments to Boards, Commissions, and Committees

1. **Appointments, Generally.** All appointments to boards, commissions, and committees based upon magisterial district boundaries will be made by the Board. The Board will consider and/or interview candidates recommended by the Supervisor of that district.
2. **Compilation of List of Expired Terms and Vacancies.** Prior to the first regular Board meeting each month, the Clerk will provide the Board a list of expired terms and vacancies that will occur within the next 60 days. The Board will then advise the Clerk which vacancies to advertise.
3. **Advertising Positions.** When the Board advises the Clerk which vacancies to advertise, the Clerk shall, in collaboration with the County's Director of Communications and Public Engagement, distribute notice of the vacancy on any board, commission, or committee through available and appropriate media in order to reach as many citizens as possible. The advertisement shall provide a brief description of the duties and functions of the board, commission, or committee, the length of term of the appointment, the frequency of meetings, the minimum qualifications necessary to fill the position, and the Board's expectations for appointees to attend meetings and to participate in other activities of the board, commission, or committee. An explanation of the appointment process for both magisterial and at-large appointments will also be sent to all applicants.
4. **Application Content.** The application form shall request information in the following areas: (i) the name of the board, commission, or committee to which the applicant seeks to be appointed; (ii) the name, address, and other contact information of the applicant; (iii) employment; (iv) County resident status and resident history; (v) family relationship (natural or legal offspring, parent, grandparent, spouse, or sibling) to any County Supervisor or other officer, employee, or appointee; (vi) education; (vii) offices or memberships in civic, not-for-profit, and similar organizations; (viii) activities and interests; (ix) reasons for seeking to serve on the board, commission, or committee; and (x) how the applicant learned about the vacancy.
5. **Application Period.** All interested applicants will have a minimum of 30 days from the date of the first notice to complete and return to the Clerk a detailed application, with the understanding that the application may be released to the public, if requested. No applications will be accepted if they are received or, if the application is mailed through the United States Postal Service, postmarked after the advertised application deadline; however, the Board, at its discretion, may extend the deadline.
6. **Distribution of Applications.** After the application deadline has passed, the Clerk will distribute all applications received to the Supervisors before the Board meeting at which the applications will be considered. For magisterial appointments, the Clerk will forward applications as they are received to the Supervisor of that district who will then recommend their appointment.
7. **Interviews; Appointments Without Interviews.** From the pool of qualified candidates, the Board, in its discretion, may make an appointment without conducting an interview, or

may select applicants to interview for the vacant positions. The Clerk will then schedule interviews with applicants to be held on the day of a regular or special Board meeting.

8. **Appointments Within 90 Days.** The Board will make all reasonable efforts to interview selected applicants and make appointments within 90 days after the application deadline. For Board-designated agency appointments to boards, commissions, and committees, the Clerk shall ask the agency to recommend a person for appointment by the Board.
9. **Vacancies Filled as They Occur; Exception.** All vacancies will be filled as they occur, except that vacancies occurring on a Community Advisory Committee will be filled on an annual basis at the time regular terms expire unless there are more than three vacancies on that Committee at the same time and more than three months remaining from the annual appointment date. Except as otherwise provided by law, the terms of citizen members of boards, commissions and committees shall continue, unless such members are otherwise removed, until their successors have been appointed and qualified.
10. **Appointees Required to File Real Estate Disclosure Form.** As a condition of assuming office, all citizen members of boards, commissions, and committees shall file a real estate disclosure form as set forth in the State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act (Virginia Code § 2.2-3100 *et seq.*) and thereafter shall file the form annually on or before February 1.
11. **Termination of Appointment for Excessive Absences.** If a member of a board, commission, or committee does not attend and participate in at least 75 percent of that body's meetings, the Chair of the body may request the Board to terminate the appointment, if permitted by applicable law, and refill it during the next scheduled advertising period. If permitted by applicable law, the Board may establish different attendance requirements and procedures to terminate an appointment for excessive absences for a particular board, commission, or committee.
12. **Appointees to Advisory Bodies Serve at the Pleasure of the Board.** Any person appointed by the Board to an advisory board, commission, or committee serves solely at the pleasure of the Board.

4. Supervisors Serving Without Remuneration on the Board of Trustees, Board of Directors, or a Comparable Governing Body of Not-for-Profit Entities; Serving on Non-Governmental Entity's Governing Body

- A. **State Law.** The State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act (the "Act") recognizes that a system of representative government depends in part upon: (i) Supervisors representing fully the public in the legislative process; and (ii) the County's citizens maintaining the highest trust in the Board of Supervisors. The Act establishes rules designed to assure that the judgment of any Supervisor is free of inappropriate conflicts of interest. Under the Act, a Supervisor who serves without remuneration as a member of the board of trustees of a not-for-profit entity, where neither the Supervisor nor their immediate family has a personal interest in the not-for-profit entity, is not required to disclose or disqualify themselves from participating in any transaction related to the not-for-profit entity.
- B. **Board Policy.** A Supervisor who serves without remuneration as a member of the board of trustees, board of directors, or a comparable governing body of a not-for-profit entity must disclose that fact at each meeting of the Board of Supervisors at which a matter pertaining to the not-for-profit entity is considered or acted upon. The disclosure must be made at the beginning of the Board meeting at which the matter will be considered or acted upon.

- C. **Limitation on Number of Supervisors Serving on a Non-Governmental Entity's Governing Body.** Not more than one Supervisor may be assigned to or sit on a board of trustees, board of directors, or a comparable governing body of any non-governmental entity located or conducting business in Albemarle County. More than one Supervisor may serve as a committee member or a Board liaison to a non-governmental entity if the Supervisors are appointed to either of those positions by the Board of Supervisors.

5. Supervisors' Attendance of Educational and Leadership Programs

- A. **Programs.** Subject to approval by the Board, Supervisors may be reimbursed for tuition or other costs of participating in non-partisan educational or leadership programs that are relevant to and will enhance their service as a member of the Board of Supervisors, provided there are available funds and upon providing proof of successful program completion.
- B. **Related Travel Expenses.** Supervisors may be reimbursed for travel expenses, including all necessary, actual, and reasonable meal, travel, and lodging costs (including gratuity and excluding alcohol) of attending such a program, as approved by the Board.