



IV.-H.

Agenda Item

**County of Hanover**

**Board Meeting: November 12, 2014**

**Subject:** Adoption of Proclamation – Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr.

**Summary of  
Agenda Item:** It is requested that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached proclamation recognizing Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., for his thirty (30) years of dedicated and distinguished service to Hanover County and conveying best wishes for a future of continued success.

**County  
Administrator’s  
Recommended  
Board Motion:** A motion to adopt proclamation

## DRAFT PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., is a resident of the South Anna Magisterial District in Hanover County, Virginia, and began his career with Hanover County as the first Assistant Director of Finance on August 6, 1984; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., was promoted to Hanover County Director of Finance on September 16, 1987, served as Acting Assistant County Administrator from July 12, 1990 to September 15, 1991, and was appointed Assistant County Administrator for Finance and Administration on July 1, 1993; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., was promoted to Deputy County Administrator on July 1, 1998, and served as Interim County Administrator from May 29, 2004, to November 10, 2004, when he was appointed County Administrator for the County of Hanover, Virginia, and continues to serve in that position in a dedicated and exemplary manner; and

WHEREAS during the thirty (30) year tenure of Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., the financial operations of Hanover County have grown to be recognized as one of the most professional in the State of Virginia, which is evidenced by the County’s receipt of the Government Finance Officers Associations’ Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the last twenty-nine (29) consecutive years and the Award for Distinguished Budget Presentations for the last twenty-four (24) years; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., has been instrumental in Hanover County obtaining its current AAA bond rating from all three ratings agencies due to the County’s sound financial management, solid economic indicators, low debt burden and strong reserves - nationally only thirty-nine (39) counties out of more than 3,000 counties in the United States are rated AAA by all three ratings agencies; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., was instrumental in helping the County achieve the Senate Productivity and Quality Award, which recognizes significant accomplishment and an organizational culture headed toward exemplary performance, which has been attained by only a handful of localities in Virginia; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., has devoted his thirty (30) year career with Hanover County to serving the citizens and employees and has been an active participant in regional collaboration efforts to help bring about citizen-business engagement and economic development growth in the County; and

WHEREAS under his leadership Hanover County has maintained a Comprehensive Land Use Plan that allows for the efficient and cost-effective suburban development while maintaining Hanover’s quality of life and unique rural and historic character; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris has been instrumental in providing the leadership and vision for countless County-wide capital improvement investments that will serve the County for years to come; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., has been an active participant in regional collaboration efforts through his service on the Virginia Biotechnology Research Partnership Authority and Research Park Corporation Board of Directors, Greater Richmond Convention Center Authority, Greater Richmond Partnership, Inc., Leadership Metro Richmond Board, and Virginia Municipal League (VML) Insurance Programs Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr.’s, professional leadership includes service in the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), past president of the Virginia Government Finance Officers’ Association, membership of the Leadership Metro Richmond, Class of 1999, and the Virginia Local Government Managers’ Association Board; and

WHEREAS the dedication and hard work of Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., for the County and its citizens represents the best attributes of Hanover County employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hanover County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the citizens, wishes to recognize and thank Cecil R. “Rhu” Harris, Jr., for his thirty (30) years of dedicated and distinguished service and conveys their best wishes for a future of continued success.