

SECTION: LEGISLATIVE

SUBJECT: COUNCILLOR COMMUNICATION

Original Resolution No.: 01-04-37

COUNCILLOR COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION

It is the policy of the County of Warner No. 5 that County Councillors will use the interests and views of all parties as a benchmark for making mutually agreed upon decisions. All decisions will be honest, fair, ethical and respectful. All business will be conducted in a professional and dignified manner. The fundamental principles are outlined below.

1. Goodwill and its components include:

- Acknowledging the importance of goodwill among us.
- Building trust among us by living up to our commitments and avoiding surprises that may compromise others.
- Respecting each others' roles, interests and accountabilities.
- Giving each other the benefit of the doubt, accepting honest mistakes and seeking explanations before reacting.

2. Communication and its components include:

- Striving to understand and be understood by others.
- Focusing on issues rather than personalities.
- Communicating in ways that promote common understanding, quick and effective resolution of issues, prevention of disputes and stronger relationships.
- Sharing information to the fullest extent possible and using it to promote mutual gain.
- Informing affected partners of matters of shared interest.

3. Process and its components include:

- Seeking a resolution as near its entry point as possible and retaining maximum direct control over the outcome with the parties.
- Providing appropriate opportunities for all legitimate stakeholders to be involved.

4. Outcomes and its components include:

- Seeking solutions that meet our joint and individual interests to the fullest extent possible.
- Honoring the agreements we reach and being clear about what has been decided and how the agreement will be carried out.
- Acknowledging that there may be times when we can only "agree to disagree".