

Robertson wins Appomattox court clerk seat

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Janet Robertson was swept into her first elected term as Appomattox County's clerk of court Tuesday with about 55 percent of the vote.

Robertson, 38, said she was honored by the confidence the voters had placed in her.

"I'd like to thank my family and my friends for their help and, most of all, for their prayers," she said.

This was Robertson's first bid for elected office. She had worked for the court clerk's office for the past six years and been at its helm since the retirement of the prior clerk, Barbara Williams, last year.

Robertson said she felt her experience and track record had helped propel her to victory in Tuesday's five-way race and pledged to continue providing quality service to the community.

"As the citizens have spoken, if it's not broke, don't fix it," she said. "I feel the same way and will continue to run the office in the way I was trained to by my predecessor."

Robertson will serve out the remainder of Williams' unexpired term, which ends in 2015. She cited her priorities as running a cost-effective office that provides courteous and professional service.

A total of 5,604 votes were cast in Appomattox County's court clerk race, according to unofficial results posted to the state Board of Elections website Tuesday night.

The clerk's job in Appomattox pays about \$90,300 annually.

The second-place finisher was Karen Lawson, who pulled down about 24 percent of the vote.

"I appreciate all the voters who did come out for me," Lawson said. "I worked hard, and I'm thankful for everyone who supported me."

Lawson, a paralegal, described the campaign as a "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunity, but added she had always known she was facing an uphill battle given that many voters saw Robertson as the incumbent.

"If I couldn't come in first, I'm proud I at least came in second," she said. "I wish Janet Robertson the best of luck."

Third place in the clerk's race went to Cheryl Cheatham Comeau with 14 percent of the vote. Chantel Taylor garnered 4 percent and Terrie Conrad received 3.15 percent.