

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
January 20, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Frederick A. Holliday
Commissioner Dennis G. Glotfelty
Commissioner Ernest J. Gregg

County Administrator R. Lamont Pagenhardt

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting Agenda. Mr. Pagenhardt indicated that there were no additions or deletions to the Public Meeting for January 20, 2009. Mr. Pagenhardt also noted several matters to be discussed during administrative session on this date.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of January 13, 2009 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Glotfelty, which was seconded by Commissioner Gregg, and made unanimous by Chairman Holliday.
3. The Board of County Commissioners conducted the quarterly department head staff meeting. In attendance for this session were representatives from the following departments, agencies, and offices:
 - a) Department of Social Services
 - b) Department of Financial Services
 - c) County Health Department
 - d) Department of Economic Development
 - e) Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management
 - f) County Roads Department
 - g) Community Action Committee
 - h) Office of the State's Attorney
 - i) Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County
 - j) Department of Planning and Land Development
 - k) Office of Partnership and Families
 - l) County Extension Office
 - m) Department of General Services

n) Department of Public Utilities

4. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Gregg, which was seconded and carried by Chairman Holliday, executed a Resolution approving amendments to the Garrett County Water and Sewer Master Plan – McHenry Business Park and Proposed Workforce Housing Development that was outlined and discussed during a Public Hearing on January 6, 2008. Commissioner Glotfelty abstained from the vote. (Linda Lindsey, Director, Department of Public Utilities noted that there was a change to the sewer line as noted in amendment text during the Public Hearing from an eight (8) inch to a six (6) inch line).
5. After the Public Meeting commenced James Stanton postponed his session *via e-mail* with the Board of County Commissioners on this date at which time he intended to voice his opinion of opposition on legislation presented by the Board to the Maryland General Assembly on emergency fire and rescue services. No reason was given for this postponement.
6. Public Commentary. None on this date.
7. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming week.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of correspondences and communications with the Board of County Commissioners.
2. Sheriff Gary Berkebile presented a recommendation for dispatching emergency 911 calls to County and State law enforcement offices. Bradley Frantz, Director, Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management was in attendance for this session and provided his opinion and support for a change in current policy. This recommendation states that both Maryland State Police and Garrett County Sheriff's Department should be notified as soon as possible so that the nearest police officer may respond and provide assistance as needed. This would offer the best possible service to countywide public safety. The Board of County Commissioners agreed with the recommendation as presented.
3. The Board of County Commissioners discussed proposed natural gas tax legislation presented for consideration to the Maryland General Assembly during the 2009 Session. In attendance for this session was James Hinebaugh, Director, Department of Economic Development; John Nelson, Director, Department of Planning and Land Development; Wendy Yoder, Director, Department of Financial Services; Scott

Weeks, Assistant Director, Department of Financial Services; and Gary Mullich, Director, Department of General Services.

Senator George Edwards had communicated with Mr. Pagenhardt that he and Delegate Beitzel are proposing amending the legislation proposed by the Board as it pertains to the percentage of the tax and distribution of revenue. The Board and staff unanimously agreed to not amend current law or proposed legislation as it pertains to the percentage of tax. This decision was based on the realistic amount of water to be transported on County roads for natural gas extraction and the associated cost for damage to these roads.

This will remain a legislative request for the 2009 General Assembly Session and the Board will continue to request that legislation be presented for approval as initially drafted.

4. Mr. Nelson reviewed County properties that the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources is requesting access to complete a stream survey. These properties include property where Garrett County Memorial Hospital, Garrett County Roads Department site in Oakland, and Adventure Sports Center are located. The Board of County Commissioners agreed to the request and asked Mr. Nelson to respond to the Department of Natural Resources.
5. Mr. Mullich presented issues related to the HART Animal Adoption Center that is proposed to be located on County property in McHenry to include a specific parcel and entrance to the building.
6. Mr. Mullich presented final cost estimates for the Public Works Administrative Building. Department of Financial Services staff and Mr. Hinebaugh were also in attendance for this session. Sale of the previous County Roads Department site in Oakland with proceeds from said sale to be directed to this new site was part of the discussion. Commissioner Glotfelty entered a motion to defer construction of the Public Works Administrative Building until Fiscal Year 2011. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gregg. Further discussion on this motion was undertaken prior to final action and vote. Chairman Holliday made the motion unanimous.
7. In furtherance of discussion during the Public Meeting of January 13, 2009 relative to Habitat for Humanity – Hopeland Village, the Board of County Commissioners reviewed an opinion from the County Attorney outlining what he believes are risks associated with allowing alternatives to County policy as it pertains to water and sewer service for this development. The Board concurred with the County Attorney's opinion. Official notification will be provided to Habitat for Humanity of this decision.

8. In furtherance of discussion during the Public Meeting of January 13, 2009 relative to businesses at the Garrett Information Enterprise Center, the Board of County Commissioners will defer any official action at this time. Staff will continue to research this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Frederick A. Holliday, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date