

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
February 23, 2010

IN ATTENDANCE

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

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 of February 23, 2010. Mr. Pagenhardt also noted several matters to be discussed during the administrative session on this date.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of February 9, 2010 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Glotfelty, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
3. Bradley Frantz, Director, Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following matters:
 - a) Chairman Gregg extended his appreciation to the Department for efforts during the winter weather.
 - b) Issues related to the recent State of Emergency and request for funding from Maryland Emergency Management Administration for costs over normal operational expenses incurred this winter season. All departments are tracking these costs.
 - c) Other departmental matters.
4. John Nelson, Director, Department of Planning and Land Development briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following matters:
 - a) Presentation of permit activity for years 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. It was noted that commercial building contributed to the builder declared value between 2009 and 2008 (\$116,036,086 vs. \$75,624,213). The percentage of permit activity in the Deep Creek Watershed was 29% for 2009 vs. 40% for 2008 for total permits issued; 21% for 2009 for 2009 vs. 50% for 2008 for

builder declared value; and 35% for 2009 and 2008 for total square footage. Commercial permit activity reflected a builder declared value of \$66,041,800 for 2009 vs. \$11,192,824 for 2008.

- b) It was noted that energy conservation programs will be included in the County building permitting process.
 - c) Update on Program Open Space funding for subsequent fiscal years.
 - d) March 6, 2010 at 10:00 AM is the amended date for the Planning Commission Public Hearing to receive public commentary on proposed revisions to the Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Ordinance, Garrett County Subdivision Ordinance, and the Garrett County Sensitive Areas Ordinance. This hearing will take place at Garrett College.
 - e) Update on Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program.
 - f) Update on Rural Legacy Program.
 - g) Presentation of report on County Subdivision activity. Total approved lots for 2009 were 65. For comparison purposes, there were 382 in 2005, 378 in 2002, and 298 in 2006 and 2004.
 - h) Other departmental matters.
5. Public Commentary. None on this date.
6. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming week.
7. The Board of County Commissioners met with the State Highway Administration to discuss the MD Route 495/New Germany Road Intersection Improvement Project. In attendance for this session was Jerome Moyer, General Superintendent, County Roads Department; Wendy Yoder, Director, Department of Financial Services; Nikki Brown, Accountant, Department of Financial Services; and Dwight Emory, County Engineer, County Roads Department. In May of 2009, the Board and State Highway Administration agreed to proceeding with a final design with a specific option (noted as Option 1) that included a cost share agreement. State Highway Administration contacted Mr. Pagenhardt and indicated that another option (Option 2) will be recommended. The Board agreed with this project amendment as presented.
8. Mr. Emory informed the Board of County Commissioners that Federal Bridge Funding (\$3.3 million) has been secured through the State of Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration to be directed to the replacement of the Swallow Falls Bridge. The County would be responsible for the twenty percent (20%) match.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of correspondences and communications with the Board of County Commissioners.
2. The Board of County Commissioners met with James Hinebaugh, Director, Department of Economic Development; Nathaniel Watkins, Director, Department of Information Technology; and Frank Shap, Assistant Director, Department of Economic Development to ask for approval for the County to submit an application to partner with *Google* to build an ultra high speed fiber-to-the-home broadband network in Garrett County. The Board agreed to the initiative and instructed staff to proceed.
3. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved a real property tax exemption for Avilton Community Association and Catholic Charities – Division of Housing Services for Fiscal Year 2011.
4. Ms. Yoder reviewed the County Supplemental Homeowner’s Tax Credit Program with the Board of County Commissioners. Currently the income eligibility for the State and County tax credit is gross income less than \$25,000.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Ernest J. Gregg, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date