

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION
October 11, 2011

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Gregan T. Crawford
Commissioner Robert G. Gatto
Commissioner James M. Raley

IN ATTENDANCE FOR VARIOUS/ALL SESSIONS

County Administrator R. Lamont Pagenhardt
County Attorney Gorman E. Getty, III
Linda Lindsey, Director, Department of Public Utilities
Jeff Broadwater, Assistant Director Department of Public Utilities
Nathaniel Watkins, Director, IT Department
Wendy Yoder, Director, Department of Financial Services
Scott Weeks, Assistant Director, Department of Financial Services
Jay Moyer, General Services, County Roads Department
John Nelson, Director, Department of Planning and Land Development
Kim Durst, Economic Development Specialist, Department of Economic Development

1. The Board of County Commissioners previewed and considered potential modifications, amendments, additions, or deletions to Policy 2011-1, Fees for Water Connection to the McHenry Water System; Policy 2011-2, Mandatory Connection to the McHenry Water System; and Water Rate Schedule for the McHenry Water System. The Board agreed to certain amendments to the ready to serve fee under Policy 2011-2. Final adoption of the policies will be scheduled as part of the Board of County Commissioners Public Meeting on October 18, 2011.
2. Ms. Lindsey reviewed water and sewer connection fees for Hart for Animal Adoption Center which are \$75,353.
3. The Board of County Commissioners approved a Change Order in the amount of \$38,536.00 between the Board and Robert D. Beitzel Excavating for the McHenry Water System Project. Chairman Crawford executed the document.
4. The Board of County Commissioners discuss the following matters related to the County Roads Department:
 - a) Road bonding for County roads and the authority to control weight limits on truck traffic that could potentially or realistically cause damage. Mr. Getty presented the legal perspective and the propensity of use that cannot be limited to a specific use. Certain provisions of Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland could be adopted by the Board to add the delegation of authority to control and legislate this.
 - b) A proposal to purchase versus lease/purchase roads equipment.
 - c) Discussion on Deep Creek Lake tributaries and County road ditches and culverts as follow-up to a tour Commissioner Gatto and Commissioner Raley participated in that was hosted by Friends of Deep Lake and a meeting with Deep Creek Lake State Park

management. Mitigation of wash down of sediment and other best practices from County roads are options that Commissioner Raley would like to consider in the short term.

5. The Board of County Commissioners received and read a Proclamation from Governor O'Malley designating October 17 to 22, 2011 as "Forest Products Week". Members of the Garrett County Forestry Board were in attendance.
6. The Board of County Commissioners discussed the County Government website by identifying and developing potential improvements to constituent use. Mr. Watkins facilitated this agenda matter. It is the consensus and objective of everyone in attendance to have accurate information and up-to-date news available.
7. Mr. Pagenhardt presented a number of legislation topics to the Board of County Commissioners to include:
 - a) Composition of the Garrett County Salary Review Commission which is now 7 members. Current law reads that 1 member from the League of Women Voters of Garrett County shall be part of the composition. The League has disbanded.
 - b) Request for legislative consideration for Sunday Alcoholic Beverage Sales.
 - c) The opt-out provision for the modular home industry sprinkler requirement.
 - d) The need for revenues to fund the upcoming County Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) for the targeted nutrient reductions to the Bay Watershed under the Federal TMDL program.
 - e) A required or mandatory fee to be assessed by Counties for impervious surfaces. The intent of that fee would be to pay for storm water programs and retrofit projects in developed communities that would reduce flows into the Bay Watershed (the Bay watershed is roughly 1/3 of our County).
 - f) Also, given the fact that nutrient loading from abandoned mines has been identified by EPA a major source of our nutrient loading here in Garrett, we may want to consider some additional coal production fee to pay for reclamation of abandoned mine sites. I know this would not be popular with our delegation, but I'm not sure where we could identify any other dependable source of revenue for reclamation and the TMDL program is a Federal mandate.
 - g) Request from the Garrett County Board of Realtors that the County seek legislation that would grant the authority for a gas lease registry.
 - h) Request for legislation that extend the countywide snowmobile trail system to include the use of County roads for this purpose.
 - i) Review of increases in County recordation tax (O), admissions and amusement tax (O), hotel rental tax (L), County transfer tax (L), the rate of interest for overdue property taxes (L). (O designates change can be approved by Local Ordinance and L would require enabling legislation by the Maryland General Assembly). A Public Hearing was conducted on August 23, 2011 to receive public commentary on these taxes and rate of interest.
 - j) Late fee for Department of Public Utilities late fees for water and sewer service.

The Board will take all legislative matters under advisement prior to finalizing a formal list for review with the Delegation.

6. Mr. Getty and Mr. Nelson reviewed a grading enforcement issued for Norman and Glenna Guthrie. The Board agreed to send this issue to Garrett County Community Action Committee to see if there is any public assistance that the Guthrie's would qualify for.
7. Mr. Weeks presented the lease renewal agreement for the State Department of Assessment and Taxation that expired as of September 30, 2011 and an agreement on renewal has not been finalized. The Board approved a 6 month lease extension from October 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012 with an option for a 6 month extension to September 30, 2012.
8. Mr. Hinebaugh and Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a draft job description for the position of Events Coordinator that is cost shared position with the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Gregan T. Crawford, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date