

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**HELD AT FRIENDSVILLE TOWN HALL**  
**August 5, 2019**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Chairman Paul C. Edwards**  
**Commissioner James C. Hinebaugh, Jr.**  
**Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell**

**County Administrator Kevin G. Null**

**CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 5:30 PM**

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Invocation by Pastor Robinson**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Mr. Null indicated there was one (1) addition to the Public Meeting Agenda. A Resolution creating a unit - ***Population Health, Innovation, and Informatics Unit***, within the Garrett County Health Department. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda for August 5, 2019.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2019 and Executive Minutes of July 16, 2019.
3. **Proclamation: Garrett County Goes Purple – Drug Awareness Month - September 2019**  
The Garrett County Health Officer, Robert Stephens, accepted a Proclamation from the Board of County Commissioners recognizing September 2019 as Garrett County Goes Purple – Drug Awareness Month.
4. **Resolution 2019 – 7: Creating the Population Health, Innovation, and Informatics Unit**  
Directing the Garrett County Health Department to create a Unit within the Health Department, the ***Population Health, Innovation, and Informatics Unit*** (“Unit”) and authorizing the Unit to provide its digital solutions and expertise to promote local health, and authorizing the Unit to collect financial payment in respect to services provided by the Unit.  
The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adopted Resolution 2019 – 7.
5. **Maryland Environmental Services Intergovernmental Transition Update**  
Mark Serio, Chief, Water/Wastewater Operations and Maintenance for Maryland Environmental Services and County Administrator Kevin Null updated the Board of County Commissioners on the transition of services to the Maryland Environmental Services (MES).  
All former Utilities – Operations employees have been offered and accepted positions with MES except for one employee who remained with the County. Mayor Schlosnagle stated that the Town of

Friendsville has used MES in the past and were very pleased with their services and felt this was a good move for the County.

6. Resident Input and Public Commentary:

- Chairman Edwards noted that a number of citizens were in attendance concerning the rumored closure of Friendsville Elementary School. Chairman Edwards reminded those in attendance that by law the Board of County Commissioners has no say concerning school closures and suggested they attend a Garrett County Board of Education meeting to express their concerns.
- “My Garrett” app inquiry. Mr. Stephens explained that the app is a community engagement collaborative implemented by the *Population Health, Innovation, and Informatics Unit* of the Garrett County Health Department with support from local stakeholders.
- Community/County Update inquiry. Chairman Edwards stated the Board of County Commissioners will present an update later this year, most likely in December. The Board made a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce at their request, and will make the same presentation to any group that requests it.
- Specific Friendsville Issues - how to attract businesses to town and fill empty business locations. Commissioner Edwards stated the County works closely with the Town which recently helped with the parking lot expansion and currently is working on internet expansion. Mayor Schlosnagle stated that the County is very helpful and provides assistance whenever asked. He stated that the Town has tried to convince businesses to move to the Town, but in many instances the building owners are not willing to sell or remodel their property.

7. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 6:50 P.M.

**Attest:**

**By Order of the Board,**

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**KEVIN G. NULL**  
County Administrator

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**PAUL C. EDWARDS**, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners