

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

**Meeting was Held via Video Conference**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

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

**County Administrator Kevin G. Null**

**CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:16PM**

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Invocation by Commissioner Tichnell**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Mr. Null indicated there was no addition or deletion to the Public Meeting Agenda. 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 January 19, 2021.
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 December 22, 2020.
3. **Proclamation:** Human Trafficking Awareness Month – January 2021
4. **Update on County Response to COVID-19:** Robert Stephens, Garrett County Health Officer provided an update on COVID-19 and vaccine .
  - ❖ Compliance in the community is better with people wearing mask and social distancing
  - ❖ Vaccine Distribution:
    - Garrett County is doing better than any other County in the State
    - Currently working on Group 1A. Anticipate beginning Group 1B next week (75+)
    - Vaccinations dependent on the number of doses we receive from the State.
    - Allocation has been 400 doses a week. At this rate it will take 3-4 weeks to vaccinate all eligible people in 1B.
    - Next group is 1C (65+ and educators) and should be available by the first of February. Dependent on the number of doses we receive on a weekly basis.
  - ❖ The Garrett County Health Department will publish a link on its website to register for an appointment, calls are also accepted. It is faster to register online. If you call, expect to wait, or get busy signals.
    - This is for Group 1B-age 75 and older. You must register. If you register and show up but are not over 75 you will be turned away. Everyone is required to show identification or proof of age.
    - We understand that people with underlying health issues under 75-year-old may make a reasonable case to be vaccinated, however, we are following state guidelines and are focused population groups.

- When pharmacies and other health care providers get access to the vaccine you can try to schedule appointments through them. They are better suited to prioritize patient needs.

5. **Child Adolescent Health Work Group Update** – Dr. Karl Schwalm, Dr. Stephanie Sisler, and Mary Van Sickel, presented an update on the findings of the Child Adolescent Health Work Group. A copy of the presentation is attached.

6. The Garrett County Purchasing Department presented the following recommendation:

**Bid Rejection - Bid # 20-1105 – Hoyes Run Water Treatment Plant Project**

Three (3) bids were received – Beitzel Excavating , LLC (\$1,851,382.00), Excavating Associates, Inc. (\$2,047,554.00), and BYCO Enterprises, Inc. (\$2,056,814.19).

The recommendation is to reject all Bids due to the on-going Thayerville water project. Once the Thayerville project is completed, the County will reevaluate the Hoyes Run Project and seek additional funding for the project.

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 Bid Rejection as recommended.

7. **Board Appointments/Reappointments** - The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, appointed/reappointed the following individuals:

- ❖ Garrett County Community for Women – 3-Year Terms.  
Appoint – Yolonda Michelle Harman
- ❖ Emergency Medical Services – Region I Advisory Council – 3-Year Terms
 

<u>Reappointment</u>	<u>Appointment</u>
John Frank	Allen Ward
Cheryl Rexrode	
Dr. Stephanie Sisler	

Official letters will be sent to all appointees under the signature of Chairman Edwards outlining the terms of appointment

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC MEETING AND OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

On a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Meeting was closed and the Public Hearing opened at 5:06 p.m.

8. **PUBLIC HEARING: Garrett County Agricultural Land Preservation District Applications.** Gary Aronhalt, Watershed Cordinator, Garrett County Department of Planning & Land Management, presented the recommendation from the Garrett County Agricultural Land Advisory Board and the Garrett County Planning Commission, the Board of Garrett County Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing to review the following applicants who requested that their land be established as a Garrett County Agricultural Preservation District, Bear Creek Legacy Area.

Applicants:

- Tom and Mary Rosser (126.04 Acres) – Accident Friendsville Road – Map 24 Parcels 32 & 76
- Chester L. Yoder (172.2 Acres) – Harmon Road – Map 15 Parcel 12
- Steven Margroff (51.98 Acres) – Cove Road – Map 15 Parcel 87

Public comments will be received through Friday, January 29, 2021 at [gccomments@garrettcountry.org](mailto:gccomments@garrettcountry.org).

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

On a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Hearing was closed and the Public Meeting opened at 5:10 p.m.

- 9. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via live stream.

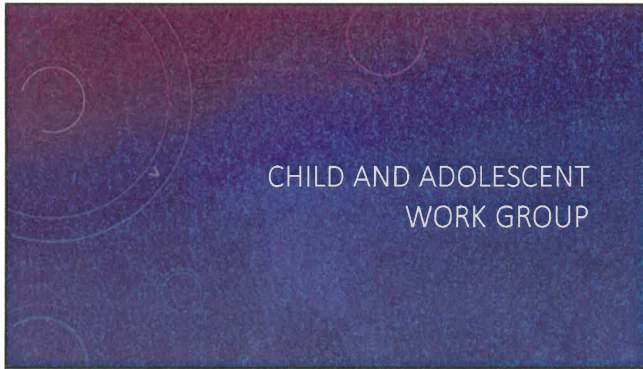
**ADJOURNMENT:** The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 5:11 P.M.

**Attest:**

**By Order of the Board,**

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**KEVIN G. NULL**  
County Administrator

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



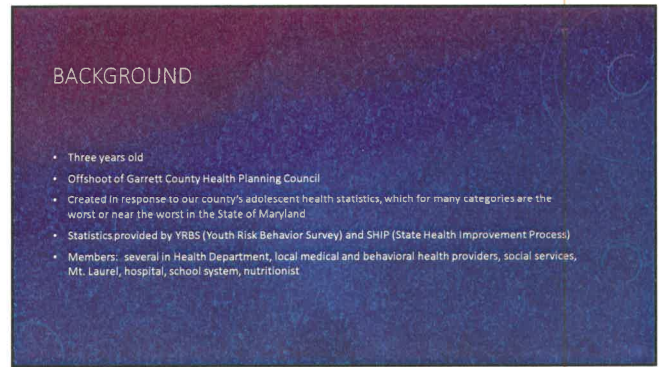
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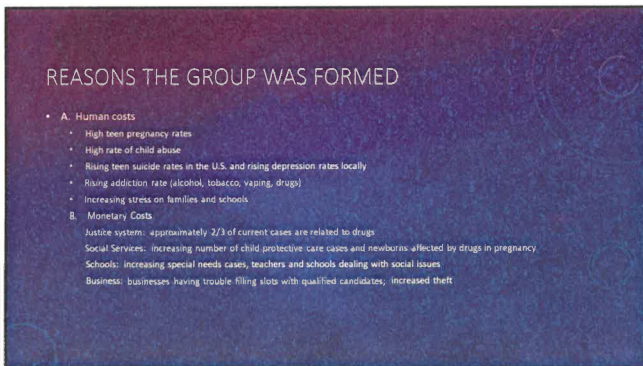
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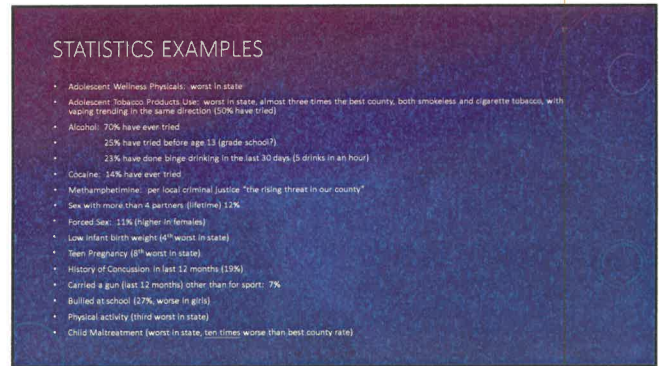
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### EFFORTS SO FAR

- Adolescent Wellness Physicals: education, individual visits, keeping statistics
- Integrated Health Education (Worcester pilot project)
- Behavioral Health

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### SOLUTIONS: IT TAKES A VILLAGE

- 1. Parents: primary source of a child's learning, but some parents don't parent
- 2. Schools: time is a problem, but schools are probably only next to parents in importance
- 3. Health Care System: we have to get the kids in for wellness visits so providers can address issues preventively
- 4. Hospital
- 5. Extracurricular Activities (4H, Scouts, sports, other interest groups)
- 6. Church
- 7. Special Interest Groups like ours
- Educate
- Advocate

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### IT TAKES A VILLAGE

- [mygarrettcounty.com](http://mygarrettcounty.com): started with and largely has to do with health/exercise topics, now includes other interest groups. The idea is to provide a platform where people with similar interests can find and work on issues together
- [gogarrettcounty.com](http://gogarrettcounty.com): relatively new platform where people can upload videos about topics they are interested in.

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### MENTAL HEALTH

- 1. 2019 Survey of Middle and High School Students and Parents (40-50% of each of these four groups identified stress, anxiety and depression as their greatest health concerns)
- Maryland statistics (YRBS)
  - A. Illicit Drugs: trend is downward, though we have the opiate and meth crises
  - B. Violence: 7% of kids didn't go to school due to safety concerns in last year
    - Bullying getting worse, is worse among females, worse electronically
    - Physical and dating violence 8%
  - C. Mental Health/Suicide
    - Persistent Sadness/hopelessness: 37% (47% in females)
    - Seriously considered suicide: 19% (24% females)
    - Attempted Suicide: 9% (11% females)

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### SPORTS PHYSICALS VS WELLNESS PHYSICALS

- Roadblocks to Wellness Physicals:
  - My daughter (or son) is healthy and doesn't need a wellness physical
  - I don't have the time to take my student to a physical
  - My insurance doesn't cover it
  - I don't have transportation
  - They've already had a sports physical

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