

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
Monday, March 6, 2023

Meeting was also Live Streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/garrettcountygovernment/>

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Paul C. Edwards
Commissioner Ryan S. Savage
Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. **Board Appointments/Reappointments** - The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Chairman Edwards and made unanimous by Commissioner Savage, appointed/reappointed the following individuals:
 - ❖ **Youghiogheny River Advisory Board** – Five (5) Year Terms.
 - Appointments – Three (3) Appointments. These appointments will expire on March 22, 2025
 - Molly Rikhye - Adjacent Land Owner representative. This appointment is fulfilling the unexpired term of Neil Jacobs.
 - Seth Metheny – Soil Conservation District representative. This appointment is fulfilling the unexpired term of Roger Kitzmiller who retired.
 - Siera Wigfield – Garrett County Government representative. This appointment is fulfilling the unexpired term of Gary Aronhalt.
 - ❖ **Garrett County Emergency Services Advisory Board** –Two (2) Year Terms that will expire on January 4, 2025.
 - General Public Representative Appointees:
 - Reappointments – Louis Battistella and William Ingram
 - Appointment - Chris Nichols

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

2. **Real Property Exemption – Avilton Community Association**

Avilton Community Association – Request for Fiscal Year 2024 County Property Tax Abatement granted under the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 7-502.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Edwards, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Commissioner Savage, approved a real property exemption for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Avilton Community Association.
3. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed the proposed 2023 Garrett County Transportation Priority Plan. This plan will be presented during the next Public Meeting on March 21, 2023
4. Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative, non-privileged personnel, and managerial matters under his authority and jurisdiction with the Board of County Commissioners.

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:07 PM

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation by Pastor David Brown

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Mr. Null indicated there were no additions or deletions to the Public Meeting Agenda. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda for March 6, 2023.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023.
3. **PROCLAMATION:** National Vietnam War Veterans Day – March 29, 2023
4. The Garrett County Department of Financial Services - Purchasing Division presented the following Bid recommendation:

Bid #23-0209 – Visitor Center Deck and Handrail Replacement

This Bid consisted of five (5) Bid options. After reviewing the bids for compliance, the recommendation is to reject all bids for Options 1, 2, 4, and 5. Five (5) Bids were received for Option 3: Daystar Builder, Inc. (\$29,500), Mill Creek & Company (\$27,506), Beitzel Corporation (\$37,344), EARN Contractors, Inc. (\$45,700), and Colossal Contractors, Inc. (\$68,600).

After reviewing the Bids for compliance with administrative requirements and based on the feedback from the Department of Public Works - Facilities & Maintenance Division, the Garrett County Purchasing Division recommended awarding Bid# 23-0209 to Mill Creek & Company in the amount of \$27,506 for Option 3 Composite Lumber and Vinyl.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Bid Award as recommended.

5. **Garrett County Diversity & Inclusion Committee** – Public Participation Survey launch. Garrett County Diversity & Inclusion Committee members Duane Yoder and Sarah Myers presented an update on the Committee and an overview of the Participation Survey being launched. This survey is a mechanism to collect stories and experiences of those living and working in Garrett County.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC MEETING AND OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

On a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Meeting was closed and the Public Hearing opened at 4:30 p.m.

6. PUBLIC HEARING: 2023 WATER & SEWER MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT

Garrett County is in the process of amending the 2014 Water and Sewer Plan, as required by COMAR 26.03.01. This plan includes future utility projects for the next ten years as well as projected populations, land use, and consumption demands. For future projects to be considered for government funding, they must be included in this plan.

Written comments will be accepted until March 9, 2023 to: Water and Sewer Plan Comments, Attn: Siera Wigfield, Senior Planner 203 South Fourth Street, Oakland, Maryland 21550 or emailed to swigfield@garrettcountry.org. Please include Water & Sewer Plan Comment in subject Line.

Amendment 3 Summary:

This Amendment is to incorporate map and text updates to showing changes to the following:

- ❖ Deep Creek Lake Water Service Area - combine the McHenry and Thayerville Systems into Deep Creek System
- ❖ Text and Map amendment to extend Rosedale Sewer Service Area
- ❖ Paradise Heights Water Expansion map update

- ❖ Glendale Road Sewer Service Expansion map update
- ❖ Pysell Road Sewer Service Expansion map update
- ❖ Mountainside Sewer Service Expansion map update
- ❖ Maple Street Friendsville Sewer Service map update
- ❖ Madison Street Water Service Map update
- ❖ Text and Map Amendments for Oakland- Trout Run WWTP Project
- ❖ Text and Map Amendments to incorporate Grantsville Water System Upgrades

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

On a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Hearing was closed and the Public Meeting reopened at 4:37 p.m.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ❖ Garrett County Government Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. Chairman Edwards outlined the budget process/schedule:
 - March 21, 2023 – Garrett County Sheriff’s Department, Garrett County State’s Attorney’s Office, and Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County budget request presentations
 - April 3, 2023 – Garrett College and Garrett County Board of Education budget request presentations
 - April 18, 2023 – Garrett County Health Department and Garrett County Chamber of Commerce budget request presentations
 - May 1, 2023 – Garrett County Government Constant Yield Hearing
 - May 16, 2023 – Garrett County Government Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Presentation
 - June 5, 2023 – Tentative Date for Garrett County Government Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Adoption
- ❖ The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

- ❖ Question on Diversity Survey’s small sampling of response and how will it be interpreted? *The survey is not the only data point that will be used. The Listening Tours will also be one of a number of data points used. The survey and listening sessions will provide a good baseline to provide to the Board of County Commissioners.*

Comment: To date some of the information from the Listening Sessions are very alarming and will be of interest to the Board of County Commissioners and have opened the door to conservations that are long overdue.

- ❖ Question on Workforce Housing developer interested in property in Mountain Lake Park. *Chairman Edwards stated that the County is aware of the interest, and they are working through the process now.*
- ❖ Question if the County’s affordable housing project will guarantee affordable price point - *Yes.*

ADJOURNMENT: The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 4:41 P.M.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners