

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Garrett County Government Creates Communications Office

A Focus on Government Transparency and Information Exchange

Oakland, MD - At the request and recommendation of the Garrett County Public Information Officer Kevin Null, and to align with the 2018-2020 County Strategic Plan, the Board of Garrett County Commissioners has approved the creation of a County Communications Office.

The communications office will serve to proactively provide government information to the public and will be staffed by one part-time employee.

As part of the current Strategic Plan, open and transparent communication to employees and those outside the County organization is critical in helping the government accomplish its mission to “provide our citizens timely, efficient services in a responsible manner.”

The ability of government to communicate with many audiences in an open and efficient way is of the utmost importance and the primary goal of this new office.

To carry out the goal, a Communications Coordinator position has been established within the new department. This role is tasked with building the communications department processes, developing an easy flow of information, sharing stories and creating content on the County website in an easy-to-access manner.

“We are eager to bring on Sarah Myers as the Communications Coordinator as part of the new Communications Office. This is a role we have needed to build for quite for some time and the ability to have a single point of contact will provide leadership and strategy to our communications plan. Sarah will help us better tell our stories,” said County Administrator and Public Information Officer Null.

Myers is a local resident of Garrett County and has over 10 years' experience in communications, marketing, and public relations. Myers' responsibilities will be to share programs, initiatives, operational activities, and emergency communications with the residents and businesses of Garrett County and the surrounding areas.

The communications office will also manage public relations and promotional efforts for special events, groundbreakings, proclamations, dignitary visits, and community outreach.

Plans for print, web, social and other communication channels are currently in development; contact Sarah Myers, Communications Coordinator, for more information at smyers@garrettcounty.org.

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About Garrett County Government: The County is governed by an elected Board of County Commissioners (the "Board"), whose three members serve four-year terms and must live in the District which they represent. The Board may exercise only such powers as are conferred by the General Assembly of Maryland. The County is administered under a line organizational method, with the County Administrator responsible for the general administration of County Government. The administration of the County is centralized with the County Administrator responsible for overseeing the financial planning, annual budget process, personnel management, and direction and management of operations within the organization.