

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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December 3, 2018 Garrett County Commissioners Public Meeting Summary

December 3, 2018, Oakland, MD – The Board of County Commissioners held their recent public meeting at the Garrett County courthouse on December 3, 2018 at 4:00pm. Paul Edwards served as Chairman. The following items were discussed:

Public Meeting:

- No additions/deletions were made to the Public Meeting Agenda
- Public, Administrative, and Executive Meeting minutes from November 5, 2018 were approved
- A Road Name Resolution was approved for Smith Cove Lane.
- The 2018 Garrett County Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted.
- Resolution 2018 – 8, Sale of Property located at McHenry Business Park to Free State Cooperage, LLC for \$60,000 was approved.
- Mr. Paul Harvey gave the audience an update on the Garrett County Department of Public Works – Roads Division - Winter Operations.
- 2019 Legislative Requests were presented and discussed with Senator George Edwards and Delegate Wendell Beitzel
 - A request was made for a legislative bond (or bonds) in the amount of \$172,500 (in addition to matching \$172,500 County funds)
 - Supporting the Garrett County Animal Shelter increased State requirements for HVAC, roof, security, etc.
 - Supporting Garrett College and a new roof for the Garrett Hall dorm
 - Supporting Garrett College for a new document management system
 - A request was made for funding to support the continuation of the project for dredging of Arrowhead Cove of Deep Creek Lake
 - Additional information requested by the delegation
 - A request was made for enabling legislation to allow the Board of County Commissioners the authority to raise the Hotel Tax (including all short-term accommodations situations) up to 8% with opportunity to move additional revenue to the General Fund
 - A request was made for legislation that Garrett County be exempt from the provisions that local funding be used before state funding in the State's new Promise Scholarship program.

- Request for legislation to amend several Liquor Board codes
 - §21-1502 – Allow a new business to be issued a license
 - §21-1504 – Allow holders of out of state licenses to obtain Class A or Class D license
 - §21-1103 – Change the code’s wording from license to permit
 - §21-1309 – For small events (under 500 attendees), a public hearing would not need to be publicized and held; only a private administrative hearing would be needed
 - §21-1310 – Allow a non-profit license holder to cater functions at their facility for outside events
- Public comments and discussion were allowed

As a reminder, public issues or concerns that are to be presented to the Board of Garrett County Commissioners during any Public Meeting should be scheduled with Carol A. Riley-Alexander, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners/County Administrator.

The Board of Garrett County Commissioners next scheduled Public Meeting will be Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at the Garrett County Courthouse beginning at 4:00 PM followed by a public Holiday Open House event at the Courthouse.

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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.