

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 19, 2002**

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Ernest J. Gregg, Jr.
Commissioner Wendell R. Beitzel
Commissioner Frederick A. Holliday
County Administrator R. Lamont Pagenhardt

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting Agenda. Mr. Pagenhardt indicated that there was one (1) addition and no deletions to the agenda for March 19, 2002. John Nelson, Director and Mr. Pagenhardt would like to review a recommendation of appointment for the Department of Planning and Zoning position of Planner II.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of March 12, 2002 were read and approved on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg. The minutes of the Administrative Session of March 14, 2002 were read and approved on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
3. Wendy Yoder, Director of the Department of Financial Service briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following departmental issues:
 - ∇ Scheduling of the Fiscal Year 2003 Constant Yield Hearing
 - ∇ A discussion of the status of the Board of County Commissioners official notice to the Town of Oakland on a settlement option for Fiscal Year 2003 tax differential. The Board had requested an answer to accept or reject the option by March 15, 2002 and as of the date of the public meeting the Town had not responded.
 - ∇ Fiscal Year 2002 Budget amendments for the period of November 15, 2001 through March 15, 2002. All amendments were approved on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
4. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, called to order a public hearing to consider the closure of a number of County roads. Staff personnel from the Garrett County Roads Department, to include General Superintendent Fred Polce, staff personnel from the Department of Planning and Zoning, and County Attorney Gorman Getty were in attendance to answer questions on the legal process related to the proposed action by the Board. A brief discussion on each road was conducted and questions and written comments were entered into the public record of the hearing. The Board of County Commissioners will keep the record of the hearing open until April 2, 2002 when a decision of action will be officially taken. A follow-up session with Mr. Polce will be conducted on March 28, 2002.

5. The Board of County Commissioners conducted a public information session with the Mayor and Town Council of Deer Park and residents of the municipality who voiced their continuing frustrations with the slow progress of completing a public water system for the Town. This scheduled session was in furtherance of the Board of Commissioners meeting with the Town on March 11, 2002 whereby the Mayor and Town Council expressed their fervent concern and frustration with the Garrett County Sanitary District, Inc. that the four-year attempt to bring public water to this town was not progressing. Council members and residents voiced their dissatisfaction about the lack of information and communication from the Sanitary District and Ronald Petrella, District Administrator. Mr. Petrella stated that the Deer Park water project has always been a priority with the District and the major reason for the delay in the project is the lack of a water source. Eight wells drilled for the town over the four-year period had produced only one viable source. Mr. Petrella informed those in attendance that the United States Department of Agriculture is currently reviewing the water system plans and officials indicated the project would be placed in a priority status. Commissioner Beitzel suggested that the District, with Mr. Petrella as the responsible director, prepare a project schedule on the water project for the Town officials and advise them of any changes to the schedule. Commissioner Beitzel also strongly advised Mr. Petrella to make sure that funding for the project was in place and that all correspondence on the project be copied to the Board of County Commissioners care of Mr. Pagenhardt.
6. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Gregg, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Commissioner Beitzel, moved into Executive Session under section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date to address the Northern Garrett Industrial Park/Grantsville Water Project with Gorman Getty, County Attorney and Jim Hinebaugh, Director of the Department of Economic Development. The same motion moved back to public session.
7. The Garrett Lakes Arts Council met with the Board of County Commissioners to formally request an appropriation of \$6,000 for Fiscal Year 2003. A number of letters and comments from members of the Council were presented that indicated the importance of the arts in Garrett County. The Board of County Commissioners will take this request under advisement as part of the comprehensive budgetary review process.
8. Gary Mullich, Director of the Department of General Services briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following departmental issues:
 - ∇ The status of final relocation of offices in the Court House
 - ∇ Employee drug and alcohol testing
 - ∇ A site visit by the State of Maryland Historical Trust to review the air conditioning and fire suppression project plans for the Court House
 - ∇ Status of the bid process for the above referenced capital improvement project
 - ∇ Discussion on projects ongoing at the Garrett County Airport
 - ∇ A proposed "adopt-a-lot" program to allow residents of the communities of Crellin and Shallmar to use buy-out properties that would include maintenance and upkeep of the grounds.

9. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved a recommendation of award to site improvement for the proposed Grantsville Area Roads Garage (#02-0305) to Winters General Contractors, Inc.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved a resolution that will agree to mandated Internal Revenue Service changes in the deferred compensation plan between Garrett County Government and Nationwide Retirement Solutions.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, proclaimed Beverly J. Beard, Mary Miller Strauss, and Patricia A. Bowser as inductees into the Garrett County Women's Hall of Fame. Commissioner Beitzel will present each lady with her official proclamation at the induction ceremony on March 23, 2002.
3. The Board of County Commissioners authorized Chairman Gregg and Mr. Pagenhardt to execute on behalf of the Board amendments to the Rental Allowance Program grant application. Garrett County Community Action is the administering agency for this program.
4. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, appointed William DeVore to the position of Planner II with the Department of Planning and Zoning. Mr. Pagenhardt will send an official letter of appointment outlining the terms and conditions of this appointment to Mr. DeVore.
5. The remainder of the day was spent in administrative session.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Ernest J. Gregg, Jr., Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date