

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2005

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Ernest J. Gregg

Commissioner David C. Beard

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 were no additions or deletions to the public session agenda.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of December 21, 2004 and Administrative Session of December 23, 2004 were read and approved on a motion by Commissioner Beard, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
3. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beard, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, issued a Resolution "In Support of Public Local Law Concerning the Storage and Display of Tobacco Products" for approval by the State of Maryland General Assembly.
4. Rodney Glotfelty, County Health Officer, briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following departmental issues:
 - a) Garrett County Alcohol and Drug Council prevention and research based program update.
 - b) A review by Mr. Glotfelty and Mr. Pagenhardt to determine the designation of funds from Mountain Top Mental Health Associates when the agency was incorporated . Mr. Glotfelty requested that these funds (\$12,014), be targeted and directed to mental health initiatives and programs under the jurisdiction of the Health Department. The Board, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beard, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, agreed with this request for designation of funding.

5. The Board of County Commissioners issued a Public Statement on their position on industrial wind energy and additional public informational hearings. The text of this statement is:

The Board of County Commissioners for Garrett County, Maryland (the "Board"), has received a variety of opinions concerning the location of wind turbines in Garrett County. The Board has supported the application for Clipper Windpower, who has received a certificate of public convenience and need from the State of Maryland Public Service Commission. The Board has also sent a letter of endorsement to the Public Service Commission for the application of Synergics, LLC, and followed that initial letter with a request that the Public Service Commission conduct the review process for this application in a manner that will allow sufficient opportunity for public input. Additionally, the Board has met with those opposed to the construction of wind turbines a number of times, both in public session and also in informal administrative sessions with County management. Most recently, the Board met in public session and received a presentation by those opposed to wind energy addressing what they perceive to be the negative aspects of that development and its potential impact on the County.

The Board has met with their senior staff and their legal counsel in order to understand and appreciate the role that County Government has in respect to the development of wind energy in Garrett County, Maryland. While there have been new and additional requests for public involvement by the County, the opinions that the Board has received reflect the belief that the public forum for these issues is most appropriately with the Maryland Public Service Commission and the administrative process for considering certificates of public convenience and need. The Board has directed the Department of Planning & Land Development to explore potential options for limiting the development of additional wind power projects in Garrett County. At this time it is the Board's desire to limit wind power development to the two current projects (Clipper and Synergics).

The Board, based upon its review, has determined that requests for public support for wind turbine development in Garrett County will be referred by the County Commissioners to the Department of Planning and Land Development for consideration of any local land use issues, will be referred to the State of Maryland Public Service Commission for their appropriate review and intervention concerning the issuance of certificates of public convenience and need, but the Board will not, as a matter of its operating policy, endorse future development at this time. As a result of the Board's policy, the expression of concern or requests for public informational meetings should be addressed to those proposing wind turbine development in Garrett County or to the Maryland Public Service Commission.

6. Mark Tonkovich, Director, Department of Public Utilities, briefed the Board of County Commissioners on departmental issues. A project summary as of this date was presented to the Board and those in attendance to include the following:

- a) Deep Creek Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion
- b) Trout Run and Friendsville wastewater treatment facilities
- c) Pump station repair and maintenance
- d) Landon's Dam Wastewater Treatment Plant
- e) Temporary Department Warehouse location
- f) Western Collection and Conveyance System
- g) County Airport Wastewater and Water Expansion Project
- h) Extension of public water and wastewater to Holy Cross Development

- i) Keyser's Ridge wastewater and Water expansion project
- j) Sweet Rewards Development plans for public waste and wastewater
- k) Status of bid process to secure the services of a hydrologist contractor for countywide service

A brief financial summary of the status of Deep Creek Lake Sanitary District connection fee schedule was mentioned. Mr. Tonkovich requested that a session with Mr. Pagenhardt and Department of Financial Services staff be held prior to an official recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. The Board agreed that this session should be scheduled as soon as feasible.

7. Brian Bowers, Procurement Officer, presented the Board of County Commissioners with a recommendation of bid award for Fire Suppression System – Former Phenix Technologies Building (bid #04-0720) to Beitzel Corporation for \$129,178.20. The Board, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beard, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved this recommendation and total price, to include an alternate deduct for open cut road crossing, as presented.
8. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beard, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved a Resolution designating of number of roads into the County Roads Inventory.
9. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant, reviewed the Board of County Commissioners Appointment and Meeting Schedule for the upcoming week.
10. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed Garrett County 2005 legislative issues that will be presented on January 6, 2005 to local delegation representatives Delegate George Edwards and Senator John Hafer. Gary Mullich, Director, Department of General Services was in attendance for this session. One additional request was received from Lohr Distributors requesting that the Board eliminate the local beer tax. The Board will listen to proponents of this proposal on January 6 prior to official action to include with other legislative matters for 2005.
11. Mr. Mullich also presented suggested paper gaming language for legislative consideration in the 2005 State of Maryland General Assembly Session.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of correspondences and communications with the Board of County Commissioners.

2. Chairman Gregg, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, executed a grant application to the Appalachian Regional Commission for \$500,000 that will be designated for the Keyser's Ridge Business Park. An application for the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Administration that will permit the County to administer this specific grant was also executed.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Ernest J. Gregg, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date