

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
November 17, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Dennis G. Glotfelty
Commissioner Ernest J. Gregg
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 Meeting for November 17, 2009. Mr. Pagenhardt also noted several matters to be discussed during the administrative session on this date.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of November 10, 2009 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Gregg, and made unanimous by Chairman Glotfelty.
3. The Board of County Commissioners executed a Proclamation designating December 1, 2009 as "World Aids Day". Pandora's Box presented a skit on this matter.
4. The Board of County Commissioners executed a Proclamation designating November 2009 as "National Home Care Month".
5. Bradley Frantz, Director, Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management, briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following issues:
 - a) A meeting with Maryland Emergency Management Administration was conducted to review Homeland Security funding for Fiscal Year 2010.
 - b) Review of potential and awarded/approved public safety grant funds.
 - c) Discussion on potential sites for a future County Emergency Operations Center.
 - d) Department conducted training sessions for the Department of Social Services mass care sheltering.

- e) Notification that the 2009-2010 Winter Operations meeting is scheduled for November 18.
 - f) Notice of other meetings and pending discussions the Department will be involved in and have scheduled.
 - g) Other departmental matters.
6. The Board of County Commissioners presented the following 2010 Legislative matters to Senator George Edwards and Delegate Wendell Beitzel. This annual session is scheduled to allow the Board to present issues to the delegation that will require legislative review and approval by the Maryland General Assembly in the upcoming Session. The listing is as follows:
- a) A request by the Board of County Commissioners that the Maryland General Assembly amend Title III, Section 32 and Section 35 of the Garrett County Code of Ordinances. Pursuant to the request of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) companies who participated in the 2006 SWOT Report, the County has established an Emergency Services Board (ESB) to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners and to provide oversight of Fire and EMS services. The responsibilities described in this ordinance properly rest with the ESB.
 - b) A request by the Board of County Commissioners that the Maryland General Assembly provide the Board with the authority to increase the hotel rental tax to a rate not to exceed eight percent (8%). The current rate is set at five percent (5%).
 - c) A request by the Board of County Commissioners that the Maryland General Assembly provide the Board with enabling authority under Article 25 of the Annotated Code of Maryland to adopt a local ordinance to establish minimum set-back requirements for commercial grade wind turbines.
 - d) A request by the Board of County Commissioners that the Maryland General Assembly provide the Board with enabling authority under Title 9, Subtitle 658 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland that will allow the governing body of Garrett County to request the County tax collector to conduct a sale of real property to enforce a lien representing any unpaid benefit assessment or other charges at a County tax sale in accordance with the same procedures governing the sale of property for delinquent property taxes. Specific language is as follows:

Article – Environment

Section 9-658(j)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 and 2009 Supplements)

9-658. Levy and collection of benefit assessments.

(a) *Levy.* - When the sanitary commission has determined a benefit assessment, and except as otherwise provided in this section, the sanitary commission shall levy a benefit assessment, so that the levy will be effective on the July 1 that next follows the first March 31 that occurs on or before which the construction is completed on the project for which the benefit assessment is made.

(j) *Garrett County.* - (1) In addition to any remedy under subsection (g) of this section, the governing body of Garrett County may request the County tax collector to conduct a sale of real property to enforce a lien representing any unpaid benefit assessment or other charges under this subtitle at a County tax sale in accordance with the same procedures governing the sale of property for delinquent property taxes.

(2) The tax collector in Garrett County may conduct a County tax sale for the purpose of enforcing a lien as specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

Public commentary was provided by Rob Michael, Chairman, Garrett County Chamber of Commerce; Bill Weissgerber, Railey Realty; Karen Myers, Wisp Mountain Resort/DC Development; Nancy Railey, Railey Mountain Lake Vacations; Joyce Bishoff, Interim President, Garrett County Chamber of Commerce; and Ruth Seib, Coldwell Banker Realty.

Commissioner Holliday requested that Senator Edwards and Delegate Edwards review current State of Maryland Codes Administration regulations on residential sprinkler systems.

County Health Officer Rodney Glotfelty requested that Senator Edwards and Delegate Beitzel consider supporting legislation that would include medical providers as State employees for the purpose of providing Medicaid coverage for obstetrics.

7. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming week.
8. Public Commentary. None of this date.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Dennis G. Glotfelty, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date