

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
August 24, 2015
Conducted at Kitzmiller School

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Paul C. Edwards
Commissioner James C. Hinebaugh, Jr.
Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting agenda. Mr. Null indicated there were no additions or deletions to the Public Meeting Agenda for August 24, 2015. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda for August 24, 2015.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2015 and Executive Session Meeting Minutes for August 24, 2015.
3. Garrett County Purchasing Department-Request Waiver of Independent Appraisal for purchase of bucket truck. The Garrett County Department of Public Works – Grantsville Roads Division requested approval to purchase a used 2006 International 4300 Bucket Truck with Arbortech Forestry Body and Terex HiRanger Boom, from Schmidy's Machinery Company, Clinton, IL 61727 for the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$49,000.00) delivered.

The purchase of used equipment is covered in Section 3-108 of the Purchasing Policy. According to this section, unless acquired at public auction, the County Commissioners may not acquire used personal property, if the property exceeds \$5,000, without first obtaining two (2) independent appraisals of the property. This section also contains language allowing the Commissioners to grant a waiver should two (2) independent appraisals not be readily available. In lieu of appraisals, the purchase decision can be made based on book values of the personal property generally accepted within the appropriate industry.

The purchase of the used 2006 International 4300 Bucket Truck will require a waiver because independent appraisals are not reasonably available and time is of the essence for this purchase. A high/low book value for this purchase has been determined based on prices obtained from internet sources such as Commercial Truck Trader, Tri-State Forestry Equipment and Maranuk Equipment Sales. The high/low book value range of similar years of International 4300 Bucket Trucks with similar options is \$59,900.00 to \$73,900.00.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the purchase of a 2006 International bucket truck for \$49,000.

4. Chairman Edwards reported on the following items:

Overlook Pass – Overlook Pass is a roadway leading to and from Marsh Hill Road and Wisp Mountain Road and, while not part of the county road system, was utilized by the general public as if it were a public road. The prior Board of Commissioners agreed to partially fund winter maintenance of the road, a practice that the current Board continued. Since the road did not meet “current” County specifications the road was not accepted into the County road system. The Board of Commissioners have agreed to accept Overlook Pass as a County road; 1) has always been used as a public road and is “grandfathered” into specifications and 2) serves a number of homes and businesses as well as future development in the area.

Medical Cannabis – The County has met with five companies who hope to obtain a “growers” license from the State of Maryland to operate a growing operation in Garrett County. The State has the sole right to grant 15 growing licenses with additional licenses required for the processing and distribution of medical cannabis.

The companies have indicated that if they receive a license to operate a business in the County they would hire between 25-100 people, invest \$3-\$4 million dollars, and make charitable contributions in the community.

The Commissioners have submitted a letter of “we will not oppose the application” to four companies and a letter of “we support the application” for one company. The State will award licenses by the end of the year.

5. Public Commentary

- Residents voiced concerns with the maintenance of North Hill and North American Roads, specifically drainage ditches. Mr. Null will follow-up and report back to the resident.
- A resident questioned water issues in Bloomington and whether a solution has been determined. Chairman Edwards reported that a community meeting will be held in Bloomington in September, when the date is finalized the meeting will be advertised.
- A resident voiced concern with the lack of public transportation services to the area. Chairman Edwards reported that the Commissioners will be meeting with the Secretary of Transportation this Wednesday and rural transportation services are a priority topic.

6. Chairman Edwards thanked the Mayor and Town Council of Kitzmiller for hosting the Commissioner’s meeting. Mayor Paugh introduced the members of the Town Council.

7. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the public meeting.

8. In compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act under Section 10-509, a record of the Executive Session for August 18, 2015 is hereby documented on this date, the next open/public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, moved into Executive Session under Section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date meet with Town of Oakland Council Members to address economic development matters. The same motion ended the Executive Session. There will no public disclosure of these issues.

Attest:

Kevin G. Null,
County Administrator

Date

By Order of the Board,

Paul C. Edwards, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners