

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
February 20, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE

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

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

The Administrative Session was opened at 3:00 P.M.

1. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, appointed Sandra Hill to the Garrett County Health Planning Council fulfilling the unexpired term of Traci Royce who resigned. An official letter of appointment will be sent to Ms. Hill under the signature of Chairman Edwards.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, reappointed Jack Turney to the Garrett County Civil Service Board. An official letter of appointment will be sent to Mr. Turney under the signature of Chairman Edwards.
3. Matthew Paugh, President of the Garrett County Board of Education provided an update on the Strategic Plan that the Board of Education is developing. Mr. Paugh indicated they expect the plan to be completed by June/July 2018. The Board of County Commissioners suggested that the two Boards meeting on a regular basis.
4. Lindsay Pack presented an overview of the Eastern Panhandle natural gas expansion project proposed by Trans Canada. The proposed pipeline will go under the Potomac River at Hancock, Maryland. Mr. Pack expressed his concerns of the potential environmental impact of an incident and the affect it could have on the 6 million people who use the water from the Potomac River for their water supply. Mr. Pack requested that the Board of County Commissioners consider submitting a letter of opposition for the issuance of this permit to the Maryland Department of the Environment.
5. The Board of County Commissioners established a public meeting schedule to review Fiscal Year 2019 Budget requests. Outside agencies may present their budget requests on April 2, 2018 beginning at 5:00 P.M. and County Department's will present their budget requests on April 17, 2018 beginning at 5:00 P.M.
6. Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative, non-privileged personnel, and managerial matters under his authority and jurisdiction with the Board of County Commissioners.

The Administrative Session was closed at 3:37 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:00 PM

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Invocation by Pastor Kroll

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Mr. Null indicated there were no additions or deletions to the Public Meeting Agenda. 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 February 20, 2018.
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 of February 5, 2018.
3. Kelly Stadelman, Director, Tucker Community Foundation, presented a briefing on the annual "Run For It" 2K walk and 5K run event. The event helps nonprofits raise awareness and support for their respective organization. Last year, four (4) teams with 122 racers participated from Garrett County. Since 2014 Garrett County's investment of \$3,000.00 has returned \$25,000.00 in grant funding to County non-profits. Ms. Stadelman asked the Board of County Commissioners to consider increasing its annual contribution to \$2,000 in Fiscal Year 2019.
4. Deborah Carpenter, Director, Garrett County Department of Planning & Land Management presented the Board of County Commissioners with the Garrett County 2018 Maryland Department of Transportation Priority Letter (Exhibit 1) to be submitted to the Maryland Department of Transportation for consideration in the upcoming project list.
5. Public Commentary:
 - Oakland By-Pass Comments/Questions:
 - ❖ Has there been any updated traffic studies? Question for State Highway Administration
 - ❖ Changes over the years appear to have addressed many of the original safety concerns – traffic was projected to increase 20%, instead it has decreased
 - ❖ How will the proposed by-pass effect the downtown and economic development? Studies indicate that a by-pass has a devastating effect on downtown areas
 - ❖ A local government body can request the Secretary of Transportation to remove a project from the CTP (COMAR §8-612). The Board of County Commissioners should consider removing the by-pass from the CTP list
 - ❖ Engage Mountain Maryland conducted an on-line survey – 95 people responded (75 opposed/18 in favor of the by-pass)
 - ❖ A number of citizens spoke in opposition of the by-pass and requested that the decision be delayed until a review of an alternate truck route could be completed.
 - ❖ Several local business owners also spoke in opposition to the by-pass and the potential effect it will have on their business.
 - ❖ Several Citizens also spoke in favor of the by-pass
 - ❖ Chairman Edwards stated that the By-Pass was placed on the CTP List at the request of the Town of Oakland and that the County will support the Town of Oakland's request.
6. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners next scheduled Public Meeting will be Tuesday, March 5, 2018 at 4:00 PM at the Garrett County Courthouse.
7. Chairman Edwards advised that the Board of County Commissioners under the Open Meetings Act

§3-305(c) closed the Public Meeting and move into Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluations of appointees, employees, or officials whom this public body had jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded By Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards closed the Public Meeting at 4:58 PM.

8. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded By Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards closed the Closed Meeting at 5:22 PM. and opened and closed the Public Meeting at the same time.

ADJOURNMENT: 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 at 5:22 P.M.

Attest:

Kevin G. Null,
County Administrator

By Order of the Board,

Paul C. Edwards, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

March 1, 2018

Pete K. Rahn, Secretary
 Maryland Department of Transportation
 7201 Corporate Center Drive
 Hanover, Maryland 21076

RE: GARRETT COUNTY 2018 TRANSPORTATION PRIORITY LIST

Dear Secretary Rahn:

In response to Maryland Department of Transportation's (MDOT) annual request for County priority projects, Garrett County submits its 2018 Transportation Priority List. There are two items to note about this year's list.

1. This list acknowledges the new requirements and challenges presented by new statutory requirements implemented during the 2017 legislative session mandating MDOT to create a project-based scoring model for all major highway and capacity projects over \$5 million. As such, Garrett County has divided our requests into Major and Minor Transportation Projects. Further, we have broken out major projects by whether they are ready for construction or in the development and evaluation phase.
2. Our project listing has not changed from last year. Unfortunately, no items on last year's listing have been completed. Therefore, they remain priorities for 2018. We respectfully request that some progress on these issues be made in the coming year, especially with regard to system preservation stormwater repairs, which have been languishing for several years. That notwithstanding, the County does acknowledge and appreciate that steady progress has been made on the US 219 N reconstruction/realignment project. That progress has led to an anticipated groundbreaking on a breakout project this Spring. We hope this project continues to unfold in a timely manner. While the breakout project is a needed first step, please note that we request not only your diligence in ensuring the construction occurs on schedule, but also that you look forward to the next phase of the project by acquiring needed right-of-way in anticipation of continuing the construction to the Pennsylvania line when the state of Pennsylvania is ready to do so.

Our transportation vision is *to link municipal revitalization to pedestrian and biking opportunities through an enhanced transportation system thereby stimulating economic development, increasing alternative transportation options, encouraging healthy lifestyles, decreasing traffic pollution and highlighting the region's natural resources.* We believe that MDOT fully supports our vision and will assist us in achieving our goals.

The attached detailed list highlights all priorities, but our #1 priorities are listed below.

MAJOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (over \$5 Million)

DEVELOPMENT & EVALUATION PHASE

- Oakland Alternative Truck Route

CONSTRUCTION PHASE

- US 219 N Reconstruction/Relocation
 - Breakout Project
 - Right-Of-Way Acquisition

MINOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (less than \$5 Million)

- Planning Priority #1:
 - Truck Corridor Feasibility Study
- Safety Priority #1:
 - Crosswalk on Rt. 40 at Penn Alps to the Casselman River
- System Preservation Priority #1:
 - Stormwater Drain Repair of US 219 at Burger King, Oakland

- Sidewalk/Streetscape Priority #1:
 - Oakland Streetscape Project
- Trail and Pedestrian Priority #1:
 - Pedestrian Crossing at the corner of 219 & Mosser Rd; McHenry Trail System – Phases I,II & III
- Transit Priority #1:
 - Transit Service Expansion
- Regional Transportation Priority #1:
 - Regional Transportation Committee

As per Chapter 725 of the 2010 Laws of Maryland, we have attached our list of Priority Projects with the required supporting information set forth herein. Thank you for considering our transportation priorities in Garrett County. We look forward to continuing our successful relationship as we work together to further the transportation planning needs of the county, region and state.

Respectfully,

PAUL C. EDWARDS

Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

DEBORAH A. CARPENTER

Director
Department of Planning & Land Management

cc: Senator George C. Edwards
Delegate Wendell R. Beitzel
Heather Murphy, Director Planning & Capital Programming
Anthony Crawford, District Engineering