

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, November 1, 2021

Meeting was also Live Streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/garrettcountygovernment/>

IN ATTENDANCE

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

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. **Board Appointment – Garrett Trails Advisory Committee:** The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, appointed Jeff Simcoe, Maryland Forest Services, to the Garrett Trails Advisory Committee.
2. Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative, non-privileged personnel, and managerial matters under his authority and jurisdiction with the Board of County Commissioners.

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:20 PM

DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES THE MEETING BEGAN LATE AND WAS NOT STREAMED.

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation by Commissioner Tichnell

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Mr. Null indicated there was no addition or deletion 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 November 1, 2021.
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 October 19, 2021.
3. **Update on County Response to COVID-19:** Robert Stephens, Garrett County Health Officer, provided an update on COVID-19 and vaccine.
 - Positivity rate 17.82% - highest in State. State rate is 3.06%
 - Case rate 79.76% up from 45.79% two week ago. State case rate is 10%.
 - 50.2% of eligible persons are vaccinated
 - Garrett Regional Medical Center is seeing patients that had COVID 5/6 weeks ago with health issues related to COVID
 - Of the new COVID cases, 87% have been unvaccinated and 13% are breakthrough cases-people who have been fully vaccinate.
 - Both booster vaccines have been approved and are available in the community
 - Vaccine for children, ages 5-11, is expected to be approved within the week. The Garrett County Health Department has supplies of the Pfizer vaccine in-house and available, once approved.
 - The Garrett County Health Department is working with the school system for vaccination sites.
 - Please wear face covering and get vaccinated.

4. **Proclamation:** Family Court Awareness Month – November 2021

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:**

- Question received on gcomments: *How much did the Commissioners know in advance of the national news about the state legislative representatives' letter to WV asking whether they would consider adding the three western most counties of Maryland to the state of WV?*

Answer: The Board of County Commissioners was not aware of the letter or any conversations with West Virginia.

- The Board of County Commissioners will conduct a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 4, 2021 on the proposed amendments to Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Ordinance concerning Solar Energy Generating Systems. The Public Hearing will be conducted at Garrett College GEIC, Room 111 at 6:00 p.m.

6. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse.

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 4:33 P.M.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners