



## Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland

### *Open Session Minutes*

August 6, 2024

#### **MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the full assemblage.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

President John F. Barr called the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Vice-President Jeffrey A. Cline, Commissioner Derek Harvey, Commissioner Randall E. Wagner and Commissioner Wayne K. Keefer.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the minutes of July 16, 2024. The motion passed (4-0-1). Commissioner Harvey abstained.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Commissioner Cline thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers during his recent surgery. He attended the Clear Spring Carnival and shared that they will be serving lunch each day. Commissioner Cline attended the Meritus Health Sports Medicine grand opening at the Valley Mall.

Commissioner Wagner attended the Meritus Health Sports Medicine grand opening. He reminded everyone of the National Night Out events coming up. Commissioner Wagner thanked employee Donna Anders for her many years of service and commented on her upcoming retirement. He attended the Ag Expo Market Sale. Commissioner Wagner recognized the 4H FFA students for their hard work.

Commissioner Keefer reminded everyone that tax-free week will start on Sunday in Maryland.

Commissioner Harvey commented on Senator Corderman's letter to the City of Hagerstown. He commented on the need to rebuild the City's police force. Commissioner Harvey shared that he is looking forward to working with the City on solutions.

Commissioner Barr commented on the effects of the hurricane and the cancelation of the flights. He attended Governor Moore's Service of Volunteerism Committee meeting. Commissioner Barr shared upcoming events.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

R. David Hays, Director, Emergency Services, made remarks regarding equipment purchases.

Andrew Eshelman, Director, Public Works, introduced the new Director of Transit, Anthony Napoli.

Michelle Gordon, County Administrator, attended the evening meeting in Hancock. She thanked Mayor Roland Lanehart for hosting the meeting. Ms. Gordon attended the Community Coalition meeting. She attended Permits and Inspection's customer appreciation day and thanked staff for holding the event. Ms. Gordon attended the retirement celebration for Donna Anders and congratulated

her on thirty-eight (38) years of service. She attended the Greater Hagerstown Committee's annual membership picnic. Ms. Gordon shared that Sheriff Albert is working with the City of Hagerstown's Police Department to assist with traffic enforcement. She shared information on the next meeting.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

Taj Smith - Hagerstown  
Bianca Pierre – Hagerstown  
Shaun Porter – Walkersville  
Levi Trumbull – Frederick  
Ray Tucker – Hagerstown  
Reverend Les McIntosh – Hagerstown  
Tom Thorsen – Hagerstown  
Mary Heeringa – Hagerstown  
Paulie Ward – Hagerstown  
Kristin Aleshire – Hagerstown

**MACO ANNUAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON COUNTY**

Johnny Olszewski, President; and Michael Sanderson, Executive Director, Maryland Association of Counties (MACo), shared a state legislative and budget update.

Commissioner Barr left the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

**MULTI-SIGNATURE CHANGE ORDER FOR COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR INMATES – APPROVAL OF THE CHANGE ORDER**

Major Craig Rowe, Warden, Washington County Sheriff's Office, Detention Center, presented the request to approve the Multi-Signature Change Order from \$2,220,805.21 to \$2,316,356.08, an increase of \$95,550.87 for claims that will be reimbursed by the State.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Harvey, moved to approve the multi-signature change order as presented. The motion passed unanimously (4-0). Commissioner Barr was absent.

Commissioner Wagner left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Commissioner Barr returned to the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Commissioner Wagner returned to the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY GAMING COMMISSION'S ANNUAL REPORT AND FISCAL YEAR 2024 GAMING FUND ALLOCATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Nicole Phillips, Senior Grant Manager, Grant Management; and Marilee Kerns, Washington County Gaming Commission, presented for informational purposes the annual Gaming Fund Allocation report to the Board of County Commissioners.

**REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE/APPROVAL OF A LOGO FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS (911 CENTER)**

Danielle Weaver, Director, Public Relations and Marketing; and Alan Matheny, Director, Emergency Management and Communications, presented the request to accept and approve the recommended logo for Washington County Emergency Communications (911 Center).

The Commissioners reached a unanimous consensus (5-0) to approve the recommended logo as presented.

**BOSTETTER PROPERTY – SEWER SERVICE AND JSSA AMENDMENT**

Mark Bradshaw, Director, Environmental Management; and Zachary Kieffer, County Attorney, presented the request to approve the first amendment to the Joint Sewer Service Area Agreement (JSSA), to account for and accommodate the provision of County sewer service to a parcel within the corporate limits of the City of Hagerstown which will provide for sewer service to Bostetter Property.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Harvey, moved to approve the sewer service and JSSA amendment as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASE (INTG-24-0153) LINE STRIPING OF COUNTY ROADS**

Brandi Naugle, Buyer, Purchasing; and Doug Levine, Traffic Supervisor, Highways Department, presented the request to authorize by Resolution, for the Highway Department to utilize the Howard County, Maryland, Line Striping Contract 4400004812 / PA-096-2023 with Alpha Space Control Co., Inc. of Chambersburg, PA for line striping of 1,532,710 linear feet at \$0.107 a linear foot on various roads within the County in the amount of \$164,000.00.

Commissioner Harvey, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to authorize by Resolution line striping of 1,532,710 linear feet with Alpha Space Control Co., Inc., as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**PATROL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

Zane Garrett, Deputy Director, Budget and Finance, presented the request to approve the budget adjustment, and related transfer of \$46,421.00 to the Capital Improvement fund, project VEH006.

Commissioner Harvey left the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Commissioner Wagner seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the budget adjustment as presented. The motion passed unanimously (4-0). Commissioner Harvey was absent.

Commissioner Harvey returned to the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT – PORTABLE RADIO CHARGES**

R. David Hays, Director, Emergency Services; and Tom Weber, Deputy Director, Wireless Communications, presented the request to approve the purchase of two-hundred and eight (208) additional Motorola portable radio chargers with a total purchase cost of \$95,935.84; and to authorize a budget transfer in the amount of \$95,600.00 from CIP Reserve Funding to the Division of Emergency Services Portable Radio Replacement CIP fund.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Cline, moved to approve the purchase of 208 additional Motorola portable radio chargers as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Harvey, moved to approve the budget adjustment as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

**WASHINGTON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT RENAMING REQUEST**

Andrew Eshleman, Director, Public Works; and The Honorable Brett R. Wilson, Administrative Judge, Circuit Court for Washington County, Maryland, presented the request to rename the Washington County Circuit Courthouse to the “Andrew F. Wilkinson, Washington County Circuit Courthouse”, to approve the transfer of this courthouse name to any new Circuit Courthouse should one be constructed in the future, and to authorize the erection of new signage affixed to the building on the Summit Avenue Entrance. Kristin Grossnickle, Court Administrator was also present. The funding would come from the CIP fund.

Commissioner Harvey, seconded by Commissioner Cline, moved to approve the funding, the naming and a transfer of the naming if a new building is built, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**STATEMENT REGARDING OPEN MEETINGS COMPLIANCE BOARD OPINION ISSUED JULY 26, 2024**

John Barr, President Board of County Commissioners, acknowledged and shared the announcement of Open Meetings Compliance Board (“OMCB”) Decision of July 26, 2024.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Harvey, moved to convene in closed session at 10:45 a.m. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individual.

(1) These topics include the discussion of confidential personnel matters:

- Discussion of hiring part-time staffing for admin by Sheriff’s Office.
- Discussion/seek consensus to advertise for open assistant county attorney position.
- Discussion of applicants/seek consensus to appoint or reappoint individuals to fill open positions on certain County boards and commissions: Commission on Aging Advisory Council, Historic District Commission, Building Code Board of Appeals, Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee; and

To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

(4) The topics discussed, and information presented may deter businesses from making proposals if done so in open session.

- Discuss whether to recommend supporting certain applications for George Edwards Fund grant for businesses to expand operations within the County; and

To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

(7) Board has requested legal advice on drafting contract of sale and negotiating strategy, as well as pending litigation. Both items are properly discussed in closed session.

- Provide legal advice and options to Board pertaining to negotiation strategy for upcoming contract of sale.
- Provide legal advice and updates pertaining to pending litigation in which the County is a party.

In closed session, the Commissioners discussed; and reached a consensus to:

- Hire part-time security staff for the administrative building;
- Advertise for the vacant assistant county attorney position;
- For boards and commission appointments and reappointments to the Washington County Commission on Aging Advisory Council, Historic District Commission, Building Code Board of Appeals, Washington County Police Accountability Board, and the Administrative Charging Committee;
- Regarding applications for funding from the George Edward Fund;
- Regarding the potential sale of surplus property;
- A business proposal regarding county properties; and,
- Received legal advice and updates on pending litigation matters for which the County is a party.

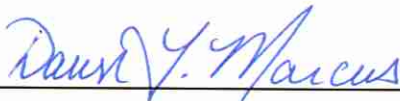
Present during closed session at various times were: Commissioners John F. Barr, Jeffrey A. Cline, Derek Harvey, Wayne Keefer and Randall E Wagner; Dawn Marcus, County Clerk, Zachary J. Kieffer, County Attorney; Michelle Gordon, County Administrator; Rosalinda Pascual, Deputy County Attorney; Aaron Weiss, Assistant County Attorney; Sheriff Brian Albert, Washington County Sheriff's Office; Chip Rose, Director Human Resources; Amy Olack, CEO, Washington County Commission on Aging; Ed Lough, President, Washington County Commission on Aging; Meghan Jenkins, GIS Coordinator, Planning and Zoning; Jill Baker, Director, Planning and Zoning; Greg Cartrette, Director/Code Official, Permits and Inspections; Jonathan Horowitz, Director, Business and Economic Development; Todd Moser, Real Property Administrator, Engineering; and Andrew Eshleman, Director, Public Works.

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Harvey, moved to reconvene in open session at 2:13 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Harvey, moved to adjourn at 2:13 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).



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Dawn L. Marcus, *County Clerk*

