

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened at 9:07 a.m. with the following persons in attendance:

Reuben B. Collins II, Esq., President, County Commissioner
Bobby Rucci, Vice President, County Commissioner
Gilbert O. Bowling, III, County Commissioner
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S., County Commissioner
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed., County Commissioner
Mark Belton, County Administrator
Danielle Mitchell, Acting County Attorney
Carol A. DeSoto, Acting Clerk to the Commissioners

Open Session

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance

Proclamation 2019-04 Black History Month

The Commissioners proclaimed February 2019, as Black History Month in Charles County. Proclamation 2019-04 was received by Ms. Charlotte Weirich, Chairperson, Historic McConchie One Room School Organization, along with other members of this organization.

Commissioners' Comments

The Commissioners welcomed and introduced high school students who were shadowing the Commissioners for the day: Mr. Ja'len Nicholson, North Point High School; Mr. Darius Dantzler, St. Charles High School; Ms. Danaisha Proctor, St. Charles High School; Mr. Jakob Moorehead, Lackey High School; and Ms. Aqsa Siddique, Westlake High School.

Approval of the Minutes of February 5, 2019

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve the minutes of February 5, 2019.

Notice of the Preliminary Agendas of February 26 and February 27, 2019

Ms. Carol DeSoto, Acting Clerk, announced the tentative agendas for February 26 and February 27, 2019.

Approval Items

FY2019 Contingency Transfer Request #6451 Clifton PS #4

Mr. Jake Dyer, Chief of Budget, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, explained that the funds for this contingency transfer are needed to cover Change Order #6 costs (wet well replacement) and anticipated site grading and SCADA antenna Improvements.

A motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Bowling, and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve FY2019 Contingency Transfer Request #6451 for one hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars (\$185,000.00).

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Update and Request for Approval: 2019 Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session

Ms. Danielle Mitchell, Acting County Attorney informed the Commissioners that one hundred and twenty-three (123) bills were introduced to date in the 2019 Maryland General Assembly. The first four (4) bills that she reviewed were part of the Charles County Legislative Package that was sent to the Charles County Delegation. Ms Mitchell was requesting approval to send a letter of support for each of these first four (4) bills:

1. House Bill 389 Charles County-Alcoholic Beverages- Resort Complex License

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Rucci and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to send a letter of support.

2. House Bill 388 Charles County-Alcoholic Beverages- View of Licensed Premises

A motion was made by Commissioner Rucci, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to send a letter of support with the recommended amendment:

Page 2

Delete lines 7 through 9

INSERT after (C) – A licensee may install protective coverings over the exterior doors and windows of the premises provided that the coverings are (I) specially designed to protect the premises from unlawful intrusion or destruction; (II) Utilized only when the premises is not occupied; and (III) only secured from the exterior of the premises. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the lawful inspection and search of the premises under section 6-202.

(D) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) or imprisonment or both.

3. House Bill 438 Charles County- Alcoholic Beverages- Golf Course Privilege

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to send a letter of support.

4. House Bill 400 Charles County- Alcoholic Beverages-Exemption from Off-Sale License Quota

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by commissioner Rucci and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to send a letter of support.

Ms. Mitchell continued her review of the following:

5. House Bill 366 Commission to Study Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Funding

Mr. Jeff Barnett, Chief of Transit, Department of Planning and Growth Management, was asked to testify for the need for more state funding for special medical needs transportation.

6. Senate Bill 634 Electric Cooperatives-Powers- Conducting or Communications Facilities

The hearing for this bill will be held on February 26, 2019. This is to construct and maintain communication for rural broadband and Right of Way (R.O.W.) uses.

7. House Bill 1051 Charles County- Landlord Tenant- Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent- Procedures

The Commissioners direct Ms. Mitchell to contact the lobbyist for the County to get more information on this bill and how this would work procedurally.

8. Senate Bill 845 Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Project- Requirements and Funding

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

This is to secure state funding necessary to complete the design for Southern Maryland Rapid transit. The hearing for this bill will be held on March 6, 2019.

9. Senate Bill 866 College of Southern Maryland-Local Budget process- Modifications

The Commissioners directed Ms. Mitchell to submit questions to the lobbyist from the Commissioners and answer Commissioner Stewart's request to see the change document, impact document, financial impact and feasibility study that is not from College of Southern Maryland.

Briefing and Request to Set Public Hearing: Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department Purchase of Pumper Truck Bond

Ms. Sue Greer, Attorney, Law Offices of Sue A. Greer explained to the Commissioners that the Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department received approval from the Board of Fire and Rescue for the acquisition of this pumper truck. The department has already acquired this pumper truck. They were seeking to refinance this purchase through tax exempt bonds which would be a significant cost savings. Ms. Greer requested a Public Hearing related to the request to seek bond refinance for this purchase.

By consensus, the Commissioners set the Public Hearing for March 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Charles County Government Building.

Briefing: College of Southern Maryland State of the College

Dr. Maureen Murphy, President; Ms. Lois DiNatale, Board Member; and Mr. Shawn Coates, Board Member, College of Southern Maryland (CSM) reviewed the college's success in workforce development. The review continued with a breakdown by counties of who is served by the college. Forty four percent (44%) of the credit enrollment is from residents of Charles County. Dr. Murphy explained the breakdown of the college's sixty-six million dollar (\$66,000,000.00) operating budget in Fiscal Year 2018 (FY2018) and the percentage of county funding. She highlighted that the graduation numbers have increased thirty six percent (36%) in five (5) years and that eighty percent (80%) of CSM graduates remain in Southern Maryland after graduation. Dr. Murphy further outlined CSM's strategic plan for 2018-2021 to include: Improve Student Progress and Completion; Provide Targeted Programming to Meet Regional Needs; and Function as One Regional College. Ms. Echo Downs, Student, CSM, shared briefly her experience of attending the college.

Briefing and Request for Approval: 2020 Census and Establishing a "Complete Count Committee"

Ms. Sonya Harris-Ladjevich, Partnership Specialist, United States Census Bureau, explained that the 2020 Census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and is used to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives; determine redistricting at the federal, state and local levels; determine distribution of over six hundred and seventy five (\$675) billion federal dollars to state and local governments; provide statistical support for grant applications; and help communities plan for future needs. She further explained that the goal of the 2020 census is to count everyone once in the same high quality as the 2010 census. She reviewed what was new for this census which is to maximize outreach using both traditional and new media; offer and encourage people to use the secure online response option; provide fieldworkers with handheld devices; and utilize automated systems. She summarized that the goal was educate, outreach and promote the importance of the census and partner with communities to help increase the responses.

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Ms. Amy Blessinger, Planner, Department of Planning and Growth Management, explained that the proposed resolution was needed to form the Census 2020 Complete Count Committee in support of the Census Bureau achieving its goal to get a complete count.

The consensus of the Commissioners was to bring back this draft resolution on March 5, 2019.

Briefing: National Citizen Survey

Ms. Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator, explained that this survey is an analytical report of the quality of life and government services in Charles County. She indicated that the results would be helpful for the Board of County Commissioners as they determine their goals and objectives for the next four (4) years. She reviewed how the survey was administered; the demographics of the respondents; and how the survey was organized into three (3) pillars. The three (3) Pillars are: Community Characteristics, Governance, and Participation. Ms. Hall further explained that each pillar covered eight (8) facets of livable communities. The top two (2) facets were safety and the economy. She provided a summary of the results, including what the County is doing well and what can be done better. Seventy percent (70%) of the responses ranked Charles County as an excellent or good place to live; fifty three percent (53%) ranked Charles County Services as excellent or good; and seventy five percent (75%) ranked the overall sense of community in Charles County as fair, good, or excellent. Some of the areas that the County could do better include transportation, ease of walking, new development, affordable/quality housing, employment opportunities in the County, cost of living, social events, land use/planning/zoning, code enforcement, economic development, and bus and transit services. She concluded her presentation reviewing the custom questions included in the survey related to traffic congestion; sources of County information; customer service and the animal shelter. The top two (2) areas indicating the need for improvement are mobility and economic development.

Department Briefing: County Administrator's Office

Ms. Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator provided an overview of the department and reviewed some of the key initiatives. These include the Commissioners retreat to create operating framework and goals for staff; the Broadband Task Force; the Comcast Negotiations; the National Citizen Survey; and numerous leases and contracts. She introduced each of the divisions under the County Administrator's Office. Ms. Jennifer Harris, Chief of Media Services, outlined the services provided by media staff which include strategic Communications Planning; Media relations; Broadcast Media; Digital Communications; and Community Engagement. Mr. John McConnell, Chief of Central Services outlined the areas of responsibilities for Central Services which include Risk Management, Security, Safety. Mr. John Simpson, Internal Auditor, concluded the presentation with an outline the authority, responsibilities, objectives, and current projects of the Internal Auditor office.

Department Briefing: Public Works

Mr. Bill Shreve, Director, Department of Public Works, explained that his department provides front line services to the residents of the County. Ms. Terri Kahouk, Assistant Director Facilities, Department of Public Works introduced each division under Public Works-Facilities. Mr. John Earle, Chief of Buildings and Trades, reviewed his area of responsibilities which include operations, maintenance and custodial services of County buildings; Energy Management; and CIP projects under twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00). Mr. Merrill, Chief of Environmental Resources, summarized the landfill, recycling, litter control, hazardous waste, environmental education and compliance handled by environmental resources division. Mr. Steve Staples, Chief of Roads, reviewed

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

the Roads Division which handles repair/maintenance of roads and bridges; culvert maintenance; mowing; traffic safety, snow removal, and Watershed Restoration Protection Program.

Mr. Greg Boykin, Deputy Director, Utilities, Department of Public Works, explained the Utilities Operations. Mr. Ed Gorham, Chief of Technical Support, explained the utilities technical support division and Mr. Sam Simanovsky, Chief of Operations and Maintenance, provided an overview of utilities operation and maintenance projects and procedures. Mr. Shreve concluded the briefing by outlining potential issues that will need to be brought back before the Commissioners. These include: an action plan for sustaining Charles County water supply in the future; identify and plan for current and future space needs of County supported agencies; develop a plan to resolve "Roads of Use" and "Right of Way" issues that impact maintenance and construction; and to develop a plan to address failing private storm water infrastructure funding.

Briefing: Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland

Mr. John Hartline, Executive Director, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland reviewed the Council's mission and organizational structure. He provided a summary of the 2019 fiscal year budget and the areas of service that the Council provides for the three (3) counties in Southern Maryland. The area of services includes: Workforce and Business Development; Agricultural Development Commission; Transportation; Regional Planning; Heritage Area Consortium; and Veteran's Regional Advisory Committee. He stressed that the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland collaborates in the continued economic and agricultural growth in the Southern Maryland region.

Commissioners' New Business

No new business.

Ms. Carol DeSoto, Acting Clerk, announced that the departmental tour of Public Works would need to be rescheduled due to the weather conditions.

She also reminded the Commissioners that they were scheduled to return to close session later that evening at 4:00 p.m. The Commissioners made a motion at this time to go into close session at 4:00 p.m.

Closed Session

At 12:15 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Rucci and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to go into closed session at 4:00 p.m. pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to interview applicants for appointments to two (2) Commissioner Appointed Boards: Planning Commission and Board of Appeals. The Reason for Closing is to protect applicants' confidential applications in order to preserve the ability to attract applicants.

Board of Education State Recognition of Charles County High Schools at the Maryland State Theatre Festival

Departmental Tour: Department of Public Works, Mattawoman Treatment Center and Landfill Operations

To be rescheduled

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Closed Session

*At 3:56 p.m. the Commissioners went into closed session

3-305(b)(1) Personnel

Present: Commissioners Collins, Rucci, Bowling, Coates, and Stewart, and Carol DeSoto

**Commissioner Rucci returned to closed session at 4:23 pm*

The Commissioners interviewed twelve (12) applicants for the Planning Commission and the Board of Appeals

**Break 4:23 p.m.- 4:33 p.m.*

**Break 4:38 p.m.- 4:55 p.m.*

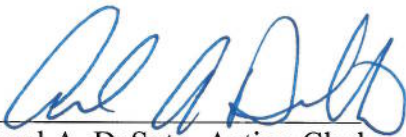
**Break 5:10 p.m.- 5:16 p.m.*

**Break 6:04 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.*


1. Planning Commission - a consensus was reached related to the appointments to this board.
2. Board of Appeals - a consensus was reached related to the appointments to this board.

The Commissioners' official action, on these appointments, will be taken in open session on February 26, 2019, and will be reflected in Action on Boards, Commissions and Committees of the February 26, 2019 minutes.

At 6:48 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Rucci, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to end closed session and adjourn.



Carol A. DeSoto, Acting Clerk



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019

FORM OF STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING

Location: Commissioners' Meeting Room

Date: February 12, 2019

Time: 12:15 p.m.

Motion By: Commissioner Bowling

Seconded By: Commissioner Rucci

Vote to Close Session:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gilbert O. Bowling, III	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amanda Stewart, M.Ed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bobby Rucci	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

General Provisions Article §3--305(b):

(1) To discuss:

(i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or

(ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

(2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.

(3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

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

(5) To consider the investment of public funds.

(6) To consider the marketing of public securities.

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

(8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

(9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations.

(10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussions would constitute a risk to the public or public security, including:

(i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and

(ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans.

FORM OF STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 12, 2019


Appendix C C-2

- (11) To prepare, administer or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination.
- (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.
- (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a proceeding or matter.
- (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, discuss a matter directly related to a negotiation strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

3-305 (b) (1) Personnel: Interview Applicants for Appointments to two (2) Commissioner Appointed Boards: Planning Commission and Board of Appeals.

REASON FOR CLOSING: To protect applicants' confidential applications in order to preserve the ability to attract applicants.



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President