

Special Meeting of County Commissioners
Thursday September 10, 2021

The special meeting of the County Commissioners was convened virtually at 9:02 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
Wesley Adams, County Attorney
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

Call to Order/Pledge

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Bowling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Collins recognized the unexpected passing of Joseph Mario Gressis, "Joe" and his selfless contributions to the County.

The consensus of the Commissioners was to officially proclaim and declare the fourth Thursday in November, Thanksgiving Day, as "Joe Gressis Day" in Charles County.

Discussion: Charles County Response to Coronavirus/COVID-19

Dr. Dianna Abney, Health Officer, Charles County Department of Health; Ms. Michelle Lilly, Director, Department of Emergency Services; Mr. William Grimes, Vice President, Ancillary Services & Incident Commander, UM Charles Regional Medical Center, joined the Commissioners to discuss continued increase of cases of COVID-19 in the Charles County.

Dr. Abney recommended that the Commissioners continue and renew the mask mandate that was in effect August 12-September 12, 2021 with the approved Resolution 2021-13 Renewed Declaration of a Local State of Emergency passed on August 10, 2021.

Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, reviewed the resolution of the Board of Commissioners authority to declare a State of Emergency and the with the additional clarifying language related to the associated penalties inherent in the order.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rucci, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve to renew the Local State of Emergency Resolution 2021-14 Renewed Declaration of a Local State of Emergency but to modify the proposed resolution to use the stipulated language of the previous resolution (2021-13) to be consistent. Taking out the language related to the associated penalties since they are inherent in the order. A roll call of the vote


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was taken: Commissioner Bowling-yes; Commissioner Coates-yes; Commissioner Stewart-yes; Commissioner Rucci-yes; Commissioner Collins-yes. The motion passed five (5) to zero (0).

At 10:23 a.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adjourn.



Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk



Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President