

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday September 14, 2022 (Legislative Day)**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened virtually at 6:02 p.m. with the following persons in attendance:

Reuben B. Collins II, Esq., 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  
Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator  
Wesley Adams, County Attorney  
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

*\*Bobby Rucci, Vice President, County Commissioner was absent*

**Call to Order/Pledge**

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. Commissioners Collins, Bowling, Coates and Stewart were present.

*\*Commissioners Rucci were absent.*

**Public Hearing: 2023 Preliminary State Legislative Proposals**

The Commissioners were joined by the Charles County Delegation to hear legislative proposals for the 2023 State Legislative Session. Commissioner Collins explained that no action would be taken tonight. The public record has been advertised to remain open until September 24, 2022 and the follow up work session will be scheduled on September 27, 2022. *\*Commissioners Rucci not present.*

- A proposal to adopt legislation to legalize golf carts and low speed vehicles on Cobb Island.  
**Proposed by: Faye Hilton, Vice President Cobb Island Citizen Association**
- A proposal to adopt legislation requiring emergency inpatient psychiatric admission be available in Charles County and every county in Maryland.  
**Proposed by: Carol DeHaven, C.N.M., M.S., Inc.**
- A proposal to adopt legislation to reduce the speed limits at all Indian Head Rail Trial crossings to 30 miles an hour.  
**Proposed by: Carol DeHaven**
- A proposal to adopt legislation to hire 25 Family and Community Engagement Liaisons for Charles County Public Schools.  
**Proposed by: Denise Joseph**
- A proposal to adopt legislation allowing for a creation of a new Alcohol Gift Basket Retailer to allow for alcohol to be included in personalized gift baskets.  
**Proposed by Yolanda Y. Dupree**

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- A proposal to adopt legislation that would mandate Public School buses to have adequate air Conditioning that cools the bus to 70 degrees with the maximum number of students, drivers, and attendants on board.  
**Proposed by: Carlos Childs**
- A proposal to adopt legislation to have a lead testing study concerning J.C. Parks Elementary and Matthew Henson Middle Schools' students, faculty, and their families.  
**Proposed by: Carlos Childs**
- A proposal to adopt legislation that would change the minimum age requirement for Charles County School Board from 21 years old to 18 years old.  
**Proposed by: Carlos Childs**
- A proposal to adopt legislation that would mandate a property owner to recognize the rights of tenants to organize a union in any building with 3 or more units or houses that are owned by the same property owner.  
**Proposed by: Carlos Childs**
- A proposal to adopt legislation to reduce speed on Bannister Circle and allow use of speed cameras.  
**Proposed by: Robin Hoiler, Board of Directors, Bannister Neighborhood Association, Inc.**
- A proposal to amend the Alcoholic Beverages Article to include an "Agritourism License" in Charles County.  
**Proposed by: Sue Greer, Esq.**
- A proposal to adopt legislation that would prohibit an unlicensed establishment from allowing the consumption of alcohol on their premises.  
**Proposed by: Charles County Sheriff's Office**
- A proposal to adopt legislation to prohibit operating unregistered motor vehicles, such as all-terrain vehicles, from being operated on a highway.  
**Proposed by: Charles County Sheriff's Office**
- A proposal to ensure posting notifications of newly introduced legislation and enacted legislation is sufficient when the bill is posted to an internet website ordinarily used by the public body to provide information to the public.  
**Proposed by: County Attorney's Office**
- A proposal to provide housing relief for seniors in the form of mandated rent stabilization.  
**Proposed by: Commissioner President Reuben B. Collins, II. Esq.**
- A proposal to define "blighted property" as a sub-classification in the Tax-General Article.  
**Proposed by: Commissioner President Reuben B. Collins, II. Esq.**
- A proposal to create a Housing Trust Fund in Charles County.  
**Proposed by: Commissioner President Reuben B. Collins, II. Esq.**

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- A proposal to establish a Maryland Commission for Civil Rights office in Charles County.  
**Proposed by: Commissioner President Reuben B. Collins, II. Esq.**
- A proposal to provide a senior resident’s tax discount.  
**Proposed by: Commissioner Vice President Bobby Rucci**
- A proposal for a Property Tax Credit for Volunteer Emergency Responders  
**Proposed by Commissioner Bowling**
- A proposal to require notice homeowners and land owners of the types of businesses being built in the community  
**Proposed by Dr. Karla Kornegay**
- A proposal to require that a reserve of no less than ten (10) active or retired Administrative Law Judges be established by the Office of Administrative Hearings to serve on Trial Boards convened pursuant to Public Safety Article 3-101 et. seq. (MD Police Accountability Act), who have been trained in accordance with §3-106.  
**Proposed by Wes Adams, County Attorney**
- A proposal to remove Charles County from the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland  
**Proposed by Commissioner Coates**

At 9:34 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart, and Collins present, voting in favor to close the public hearing and adjourn. *\*Commissioners Rucci was not present for the vote.*

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Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

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Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President