

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday March 15, 2023 (Legislative Day)

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened, virtually, at 5:01 p.m. with the following persons in attendance:

Reuben B. Collins II, Esq., President, County Commissioner
Ralph Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President, County Commissioner
Gilbert O. Bowling, III, County Commissioner
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S., County Commissioner
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed., County Commissioner
Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator
Wes Adams, County Attorney
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners
Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart, and Collins were present for the roll call. **Commissioner Patterson was not present for the roll call but joined session at about 5:06 p.m.*

Approval Items

Request for Approval: Letter of Support: Concept of Senate Bill 130 Economic Development – Maryland Stadium Authority – Charles County Sports and Wellness Center

A motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve the Letter of Support as presented.

Closed Session

At 5:07 p.m., motion was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to move into Close Session where all or a portion of this session may be closed pursuant to Section 3-305 (b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to interview for vacancies on two (2) Commissioner appointed Boards and Commissions.

Summary Closed Session Items

At 5:14 p.m. the Commissioners went into closed session.

3-305 (b)(1) Personnel-BCC Interviews

Present: Commissioners Collins, Bowling, Stewart, Patterson, Coates, Wes Adams, Deborah Hall, , Carol DeSoto and Christina Elkins.

The Commissioners interviewed three (3) applicants virtually for vacancies on the Planning Commission and Board of Appeals.

At 5:57 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to end closed session.

The Commissioners returned to open session at 6:00 p.m.

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Roll Call

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

Public Hearing: 2022 Charles County Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan

The Commissioners held a virtual public hearing on the 2022 Charles County Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan. Mr. Jason Groth, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Growth Management, Ms. Alicia Afroilan, Engineering Supervisor, Ms. Aimee Castillo, Engineer, Mr. Andrew Balchin, Chief of Infrastructure Management, provided an overview presentation, which included an update of the 2022 version from the 2006 version, summary of the plan's content, five (5) chapters outlining goals and objectives, summary of the county's water resources and demands, inventory and description of the existing and planned water and sewer systems, financial management of the public systems, various appendices, charts and two (2) sets of category maps for the county, review of the updates to add a title page, mission statement and table of contents, introduction and statements of certification of adoption to meet Code of Maryland regulations, statement that the plan has been reviewed by a registered professional engineer. Reviewed changes to Chapters 1 – 5. Walked through the status of the outlined approval process. The next steps are to intake and consider any public comments, hold any additional work sessions as needed before the Commissioners adopt the plan. They will be sending the final version of the plan to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for final approval. As well as updating the names of the Commissioners in plan to reflect the current board and update the dates to reflect that it is 2023 before the plan is sent to the Maryland Department of the Environment for approval.

The Commissioners heard testimony from one (1) citizen registered to provide virtual comments.

Commissioner Collins recommended that Jason Groth add the entire DEI assessment process that he went through for the 2022 Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan with Renesha Miles to all presentations. Commissioner Coates and Commissioner Bowling agreed that this was a good plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to keep the record open for seven (7) days.

A motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to close the public hearing.

At 6:29 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adjourn.

Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President