

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday June 28, 2023 (Legislative Day)**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened in hybrid format, virtually and in person, at 3:05 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  
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed., County Commissioner  
Deborah Hall, Acting County Administrator  
Wes Adams, County Attorney  
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

*\*Thomasina O. Coates, M.S., 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 Bowling, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins were present.  
*\*Commissioner Coates was absent.*

**Update: Space Needs Task Force**

Ms. Deborah Hall, Acting County Administrator, Office of the County Administrator, and Ms. Catherine Reisinger, Chief of Administrative Operations, Department of Planning and Growth Management, and the Space Needs Task Force members joined the Commissioners to provide an update related to the need for additional space for County Government. They reviewed recommendations from past space needs studies; discussed current priorities for upgrading the Commissioner Meeting Room and identifying additional space for Recreation, Parks, and Tourism; analyzed potential options at the newly acquired property at 107 Centennial Street and at the Port Tobacco building; and presented funding options for government building renovations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins present, voting to approve allocating funds received from the sale of the Old La Plata Armory to be appropriated to the renovations of the Government Building as determined by the Space Needs Task Force. *\*Commissioner Coates was not present for the vote.*

**Closed Session**

At 3:38 p.m., motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor move into Close Session where all or a portion of this session may be closed pursuant to Section 3-305 (b)(1)(7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to receive legal advice on Commissioners' procedures; and discuss one (1) personnel issue. The reason for moving into closed session is to receive legal advice and keep personnel information confidential. *\*Commissioner Coates was not present for the vote.*

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Summary Closed Session Items

At 4:00 p.m. the Commissioners went into closed session.

3-305(b)(1)(7) Legal/Personnel

Present: Commissioners Bowling, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins, Deborah Hall, Christina Elkins, Alexis Blackwell, Bernadette Sargeant, and Kevin Karpinski.

Outside Counsel joined the Commissioners to review the report related to personnel.

3-305(b)(7) Legal Advice on Commissioners' Procedures

Present: Commissioners Bowling, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins, Deborah Hall, Christina Elkins, Alexis Blackwell, and Kevin Karpinski.

Outside counsel provided legal advice related to the Commissioners' Procedures.

At 5:48 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Stewart, Patterson and Collins present, voting in favor, to end this close session and adjourn. *\*Commissioner Coates 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