

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Wednesday September 13, 2023

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened in hybrid format, virtually and in person, at 6:02 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, Acting County Administrator
Wes Adams, County Attorney
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

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. All Commissioners were present.

Public Hearing: 2024 Preliminary State Legislative Proposals

The Commissioners were joined by the Charles County Delegation to hear legislative proposals for the 2024 State Legislative Session. Commissioner Collins explained that no action would be taken tonight. The follow up work session will be scheduled on September 26, 2023.

- 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 change to Maryland Law 14-402 on behalf of the Adult Guardianship Review Board to change the Board's membership composition requirement for a psychiatrist.
Proposed by: Linda Stansbury, Chairperson Adult Guardianship Review Board
- 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 impose an accommodation tax on all short-term rentals (e.g., Airbnb, VRBO)

A proposal to enact a Parkland Dedication Ordinance to require property developers pay a fee to be used instead of dedicating land (i.e., "fee-in-lieu"), or a combination of dedication or construction of recreational facilities.

Proposed by: Dept. of Recreation, Parks & Tourism

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Wednesday September 13, 2023

- A proposal to impose air conditioning requirements for residential rental properties.
Proposed by: Carlos Childs
- A proposal to commission a lead testing study to direct the Maryland Department of Health to offer J.C. Parks Elementary and Matthew Henson Middle school's students, faculty, and their families free blood lead testing and lead test at school.
Proposed by: Carlos Childs
- A proposal to change the minimum age requirement to run for Charles County School Board from twenty one (21) years old to eighteen (18) years old.
Proposed by: Carlos Childs
- A proposal to amend the municipality incorporation process.
Proposed by: Carlos Childs
- A proposal to allow Maryland educators to use any accrued personal leave or leave without pay to provide a public service to any local government and/or non-profit organization for compensation or volunteer capacity.
Proposed by: Derrick Terry
- A proposal to allow Maryland educators to accrue compensatory time (max of ninety (90) hours per academic year) for performing educational work duties and/or responsibilities outside of contractual working hours.
Proposed by: Derrick Terry
- A proposal to provide one hundred percent (100%) to seventy five percent (75%) reimbursement to Maryland educators for graduate school or educator renewal courses in exchange for remaining in school system for specified number of academic years (i.e., four (4) years after all courses are completed)
Proposed by: Derrick Terry
- A proposal to require certain training be completed by those individuals appointed or elected to the governing body of a common ownership community.
Proposed by: Ayana Moore and Eileen Lynch-Britt on behalf of Charles County HOA & Civic Association Alliance

At 8:53 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adjourn.

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President