

Regular Meeting of County Commissioners
Tuesday July 23, 2024 (Legislative Day)

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened in person, at 9:02 a.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
Jenifer Ellin, Acting Deputy 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.

Invocation by Pastor Charles Hamlin, The Oil Church

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins were present in person. **Commissioner Stewart was absent.*

Recognition of Southern Maryland Hawks Prestige STORM Cheerleaders

Recognition- NAACP ACT-SO Initiative Participants

Recognition: Employee Length of Service, April-June 2024; Top Performer Second Quarter (April-June 2024)

The Commissioners recognized employees' years of service for April through June 2024. The Top Performers for the first quarter of 2024, Ms. Melissa Tucker, Payroll Analyst II, Ms. Megan Johnston, Payroll Analyst I, Ms. Kelly Holcomb, Payroll Manager, Mr. Bill Kidwell, Applications Manager, Ms. Gina Markovich, IT Project Manager, Mr. Billy Edge, Systems Analyst I, Mr. Ross Hedges, Systems Analyst II, Ms. Carmen Proctor, Systems Analyst II, Ms. Loydel Makle, Systems Analyst II, and Mr. Darius Leftwich, Systems Analyst I, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, were recognized for converting the County's payroll system over the last year and half.

**Break 9:28 a.m.- 9:41 a.m.*

The Commissioners continued the session in a hybrid format.

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins were present in person. **Commissioner Stewart was absent.*

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Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Patterson:

- Participated in the African American Heritage discussion at the La Plata Library and thanked staff.
- Spoke on the visit Secretary McIlwain, Maryland Department of the Environment, last week and the informative tour at Pope's Creek and the wastewater treatment plant.
- Attended the Charles County Swim Championship.
- Stressed the need that public health and safety is a priority.

Approval of the Minutes of July 9, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve the minutes of July 9, 2024. **Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.*

Announcement

Next Scheduled Session(s): September 10-11, 2024, *after August recess.*

Approval Items

Budget Amendments and Budget Transfers

(Mr. Jacob Dyer, Acting Director, Department of Fiscal and Administrative; Mr. Raymond Shumaker, Chief CPIS, Mr. Don Litten, Building Code Official, Mr. Andrew Balchin, Chief, Infrastructure Management, Department of Planning and Growth Management; Ms. Michelle Lilly, Director, Department of Emergency Services; Ms. Renesha Miles, Chief Equity Officer, and Ms. Alexis Blackwell, Director, Department of human Resources Ms. Erin Shoemaker and Ms. Amy Mayor, Charles County Sheriff's Office; Ms. Sue Greer, The Greer Law Firm and Mr. Ken Crouse)

FY2024 Budget Amendment Increase #480 Contract Services-Inspections

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve FY2024 Budget Amendment #480 for four hundred and seventy-nine thousand dollars (\$479,000.00).

**Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.*

FY2024 Budget Amendment Increase #762 Infrastructure Management Pending FY2024 Invoices

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to FY2024 Budget Amendment Increase #762 for one hundred and eighty-one thousand four hundred and sixty dollars (\$181,460.00) **Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.*

FY2024 Budget Amendment Increase #851 EMS Budget Contracts

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve FY2024 Budget Amendment Increase #851 for one hundred and ten thousand dollars (\$110,000.00).

**Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.*

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FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #46 Increase Administrative Salaries Charles County Sheriff's Office (CCSO)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #46 for sixty thousand one hundred dollars (\$60,100.00). *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

**At about 9:51 a.m. Commissioner Coates left session.*

FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #47 Charles County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Drug Forfeiture Training Budget

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve Budget Amendment Increase #47 for forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00). *Commissioners Stewart and Coates were not present for the vote.

**At about 9:53 a.m. Commissioner Coates returned to session.*

FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #162 Circuit Court Self Service Kiosks

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve FY 2025 Budget Amendment Increase #162 for eighty-seven thousand one hundred and fifty dollars (\$87,150.00). *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #186 Department of Human Resources DEI Assessment

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #186 for one hundred and fifteen thousand six hundred and sixty dollars (115,660.00). *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #230 Cover Operating Costs Associated with Property Acquisition

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve Budget Transfer Request #230 for one hundred and thirty-one thousand six hundred dollars (\$131,600.00). *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

**At about 9:55 a.m. Commissioner Stewart joined session in person.*

FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #469 Charles County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Southern Maryland Criminal Justice Academy

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #469 for forty-three thousand three hundred and fifty dollars (\$43,350.00).

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Lease Renewal: Centennial Street Satellite Building

(Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Acting Deputy County Administrator, Office of the County Administrator)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve this lease renewal.

Letter: Authorizing Transfer of Federal Earmark Southern Maryland Rapid Transit (SMRT) Project

(Mr. Jason Groth, Acting Director, Department of Planning and Growth Management)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve this letter.

Letter of Support for the Neighborhood Business Works (NBW) Business Boost Microgrant

(Ms. Michelle Frye, Deputy Director, Department of Economic Development)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve this letter of support.

Request to Use Community Support Funds: Commission for Veterans Affairs Request

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve this request for one thousand twenty-two dollars and nine cents (\$1022.09).

Proposed Modification of Appendix F, Access Management Table, Charles County Road Ordinance

(Mr. Andrew Balchin, Chief of Infrastructure Management, and Mr. Jason Groth, Acting Director, Department of Planning and Growth Management; Ms. Sue Greer, The Greer Law Firm; Mr. Ken Crouse, Soltesz)

A motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve these changes.

Changes: Modification to Charles County Road Ordinance Table F.10 as described below:

- Remove Access Point R3
- Relocate Access Point "R2" to Sta. 116+80 and change to a full movement median break

Proposed Revision to Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) # CP.CC.01.002 County Commissioner Expense Policy

(Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Acting Deputy County Administrator, Office of the County Administrator)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with Commissioners Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve these revisions. Commissioners Bowling and Stewart were opposed. A roll call of the vote was taken: Commissioner Bowling-no; Commissioner Coates-yes; Commissioner Stewart-no; Commissioner Patterson-yes; Commissioner Collins-yes. The motion passed three (3) to two (2).

Request For Approval: Charles County Boards and Commissions Training

(Mr. Donovan Griffin and Mr. Ethan Reedy, Interns to the Clerk of the County Commissioners, Office of the County Administrator)

The Commissioners reached a consensus to include this training on the County website.

Presentation: Submission of the Proposed Charles County Charter 2024 (Mr. Greg Waring, Chairman, Ms. Dottery Butler-Washington, Vice Chair, Ms. Cheryl Botts (District 1), Ms. Sarah Hammett (District 1), Ms. • Marjorie Chiles (District 2), Ms. Mary Stokely (District 2); Ms. Ramonda Davis (District 3), Mr. Christopher Harrington (District 3), Ms. Eileen Lynch-Britt (District 4), Mr. William Smith (Alternate), Mr. Michael White (Alternate), and Mr. James Crawford (Alternate), Charles county

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Charter Board; and Ms. Danielle Mitchell, Assistant Deputy County Attorney, and Mr. Marc Potter, Associate County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney for Charles County joined the Commissioners to officially present the proposed Charter for Charles County.

Process for submission of the proposed Charter:

The Charter Board must present the proposed to the Board of County Commissioners who then shall publish the proposed Charter in the newspaper twice within thirty (30) days. Further, the proposed Charter shall be submitted to the voters at special or regular election not earlier than 30 days, and not later than 90 days from publication. There is no opportunity for amending the proposed Charter by the Commissioners, nor an option on the part of the Commissioners not to pose the charter question to voters. The County Attorney is responsible for certifying the charter question to the election board at least 95 days from the general election.

Approval: Resolution 2024-(11) Dissolution of Charter Board

A motion was made Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve Resolution 2024-11 Dissolution of the Charter Board.

Briefing: Fiscal Impact of Charter Form of Government vs. Code Home Rule Form of Government

Mr. Jacob Dyer, Acting Director, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, reviewed the estimated fiscal impact if the County moves to a charter form of government. He noted that the estimated range would be one million one hundred and fifty-six thousand nine hundred dollars (\$1,156,900.00) to one million five hundred and ninety-nine thousand six hundred dollars (\$1,599,600.00) in today's dollars. Actual costs will be updated when the funds are needed to support the Articles of the Charter. Costs could be greater if major renovations to the County Government Building are needed to support additional staffing for the County Executive's Office, County Council, and Inspector General. He noted that there is one time cost that will occur prior to 2026 related to the transitional provisions. This estimate does not include any impact that may result in the Planning and Growth Management consultant's recommendations that will "improve the organization, mission-based outcomes, and engagement with the constituency of Charles County. He also reviewed the estimated costs for staff supporting the Charter Board.

Briefing: Preservation of Charles County Burial Grounds

Ms. Cathy Thompson, Assistant Chief of Planning, Department of Planning and Growth Management, Mr. Rick Barnas, Barnas Engineering, and Mr. Steve Scott, Attorney for St. Charles Community, LLC, joined the Commissioners to discuss the Preservation Plan for the Hopewell Burial Ground located at Village of Wooded Glen Neighborhood Four (4) Parklands. St. Charles Parkway, White Plains and the process required for building when burial grounds are discovered. Ms. Thompson explained that staff created a podcast to inform the public on the County's preservation of burial grounds.

Closed Session

At 11:26 a.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Patterson 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)(3)(4)(7)(8) of the General

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Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss a proposal of a new business in the County; receive an update on a settlement agreement; to discuss property acquisitions in the County and discuss vacancy on a Commissioner appointed Board. The reason for moving into closed session is to keep legal advice, negotiations, strategies, and personnel information confidential.

Summary Closed Session Items

At about 12:16 p.m., the Commissioners went into closed session.

3-305(b)(4)(7) Potential New Business in County

Present: Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins, Wes Adams, Deborah Hall, Carol DeSoto, Jenifer Ellin, Kelly Robertson-Slagle and Taylor Yewell.

Ms. Kelly Robertson-Slagle, Director, and Mr. Taylor Yewell, Chief of Business Development, Department of Economic Development reviewed the information related to a potential new business and the property it is interested in developing in the County.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to move forward with getting an appraisal and continue negotiations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to use funds to cover the costs of an appraisal on the property. Commissioner Stewart was opposed. A roll call of the vote was taken: Commissioner Bowling-yes; Commissioner Coates-yes; Commissioner Stewart-no; Commissioner Patterson-yes; Commissioner Collins-yes. The motion passed four (4) to one (1).

3-305(b)(3)(7) Property Acquisitions Related to County Needs

Present: Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins, Wes Adams, Deborah Hall, Carol DeSoto, Jenifer Ellin, and Kelly Robertson-Slagle.

Ms. Deborah Hall, Acting County Administrator, Office of the County Administrator property acquisition within the County and recommendations on how to proceed.

The Commissioners reached a consensus on this recommendation and directions on how to proceed.

3-305(b)(7)(8) Settlement Agreement

Present: Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Stewart, Patterson, and Collins, Wes Adams, Deborah Hall, Carol DeSoto, Jenifer Ellin, Olin Straus, Ed Gorham, Samuel Walter, Martin Harris, Bernard Cochran, and Terrah Dews.

Staff reviewed the information related to this settlement agreement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to approve this settlement agreement.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to have staff move forward with negotiations up to a specified amount with the ability for due diligence option.

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3-305(b)(1) Personnel: Discuss Appointment on a Commissioner Appointed Board

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

Ms. Christina Elkins, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners, reviewed vacancies on the Homeowners Association Dispute Review Board.

The Commissioners reached a consensus on these appointments. Officially action took place this day under Additional Approval Items- Action on Boards and Commissions.

At 1:09 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to end this close session.

At about 3:01 p.m. the Commissioners returned to open session.

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present in person.

Joint Meeting with Charles County Public Schools on the 2024 School Allocation Cycle

Mr. Ben Yeckley, Planner III, Ms. Melissa Hively, Planner I, Department of Planning and Growth Management; Dr. Maria Navarro, Superintendent, Mr. Steve Andritz, Director of Planning and Construction, and Mr. Michael Heim, Chief of Operations and Supporting Services, Charles County Public Schools, joined the Commissioners to discuss the 2024 School Seat Allocations. Mr. Yeckley provided a summary and overview of the capacity and enrollment. He provided a recap of the 2023 allocations, the comparison of the school year (SY) SY2023 and SY2024; the proposed school allocation table; and the 2024 school eligibility waiting list.

The Commissioners discussed having a future joint meeting to address school seats of municipalities and more urbanized construction models.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Coates and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adopt the 2024 school allocation analysis and to issue available allocations to projects to the waiting list accordingly with amendment *corrected allocation number for Piccowaxen Middle School*.

Charles County Boards and Commissions Annual Update

Briefing: Annual Update from Commission on Individuals with Disabilities

Briefing: Annual Update from Charles County Commission for Women

Briefing: Annual Update from Disability Review Board for Charles County Pension Plan and Sheriff's Office Disability Review Board

Staff and members of the Commission on Individuals with Disabilities, Charles County Commission for Women, and the Disability Review Board for Charles County Pension Plan and Sheriff's Office Disability Review Board provided an overview of their 2023 Annual Reports.

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**At about 4:18 p.m. Commissioner Collins left session.*

**At about 4:22 p.m. Commissioner Collins returned to session.*

Briefing: Update Bonding Process Review

Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney for Charles County; and Mr. Jason Groth, Acting Director, Mr. Raymond Shumaker, Chief, Codes Permits, Inspection Services (CPIS), Mr. Andrew Balchin, Chief of Infrastructure Management, and Ms. Heather Kelley, Planning Supervisor, Department of Planning and Growth Management, reviewed the County's Current Bonding Requirements Process and potential options to address concerns from the community. The proposed options in focus areas of bond collection, warranty period and release, large recreational amenity in lieu of bond, large recreational amenity with bond required, and HOA transition and resident walk through. Staff will continue to work with stakeholder groups and will bring back revised policies, codes and regulation options for approval.

**At about 4:54 p.m. Commissioner Bowling left session.*

**At about 4:58 p.m. Commissioner Bowling returned to session.*

**At about 4:58 p.m. Commissioner Stewart left session.*

Additional Approval Items

Mattawoman Flow Equalization Basin

(Mr. Jacob Dyer, Acting Director, Department of Fiscal and Administrative; Mr. Olin Straus, Senior Project Manager-Utilities, Mr. Ed Gorham, Chief of Technical Support-Utilities, Mr. Samuel Walter, Program Manager-Utilities, Mr. Bernard Cochran, Deputy Director-Utilities, and Mr. Martin Harris, Director, Department of Public Works)

- *FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #330 Construction Cost Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant Flow Equalization Project*
For one million one hundred and twenty-six thousand dollars (\$1,126,000.00)-construction and one hundred and five thousand dollars (\$105,000.00)-administrative
- *FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #344 Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant Flow Equalization Project*
For seven million two hundred and sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$7,269,000.00)-construction.
- *FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #347 Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant Flow Equalization Project*
For five hundred and seventy-four thousand dollars (\$574,000.00)-construction

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #330; FY2025 Budget Amendment Increase #344; and FY2025 Budget Transfer Request #347. **Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.*

- *Change Order #29 Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant Flow Equalization Project ITB 20-35*

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and

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passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve Change Order #29 for one million two hundred and fifteen thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine dollars and ninety-five cents (\$1,215,889.95). *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

- **Change Order #30 Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant Flow Equalization Project ITB 20-35**

A motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to approve Change Order #30 for seven Million four hundred and thirty-two thousand five hundred and twenty dollars and ninety-two cents (\$7,432,520.92). *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

Action on Boards and Commissions

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins present, voting in favor to Appoint Mary Stokely as a Real Estate Sales Professional member, Cheryl Walker as the At-Large Member and Laz Watkins as a Homeowners Association Resident member to the Homeowners Association Dispute Review Board. *Commissioner Stewart was not present for the vote.

Commissioners' New Business

Commissioner Collins took the time to remember the passing of Commissioner Bowling's grandfather, Gilbert (Bud) Obie Bowling, Sr.

Commissioner Bowling requested a future agenda item on Charter for some legal questions. Mr. Wes Adams, County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney suggested that he and any other Commissioner email him the questions so he can prepare an answer for the Board.

**Break 5:08 p.m. – 5:16 p.m.*

Roll Call

A roll call was taken. Commissioners Bowling, Coates, Patterson, and Collins were present in person. *Commissioner Stewart was absent.

Commissioners' Public Comment Session

Commissioners held an open session to receive public comments on any issue. This agenda item was added for the Commissioners to listen to feedback only, twice each month during their regular meetings.

There were nine (9) people who provided comments in person and seven (7) people who provided virtual comments. Any written comments received were added to the website for the public to view.

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Summary of Public Comments

In Person:

- Speaker expressed concerns related to fifty (50) acre County-owned parcel adjacent to Maryland Airport. She referenced agreement with Chapman Forest Foundation which endorsed the goal of developing this parcel.
- Speaker shared concerns regarding questions not being answered by the Commissioners: related to Commissioner Patterson and not responding about rumors he was terminated from teaching job in Prince George's County for attending political events while on the clock as a teacher and potential deal to keep it quiet; he questioned Commissioners not providing reasons for their votes, especially abstentions; Concerns about water availability and New York Times article; the need for an investigation the claims by Commissioner Coates related to Ku Klux Klan; confusion of changing Black History Month to African American History month when more pressing issues for the County.
- Speaker spoke on his work on the Charter Board and spoke on the challenges and successes and collaboration with the community.
- Speaker expressed concerns about the government not serving the residents in the Bryans Road area and limited service and hours of the farmer's market.
- Speaker expressed challenges and need for better understanding of Planning Design Review Boards (PDRB) in communities.

At about 5:35 p.m. Commissioner Stewart joined session in person.

- Speaker spoke on the Charter and the potential hidden costs if Charter form of Government is implemented.
- Speaker expressed concerns that Mark Belton, *County Administrator*, has been on administrative leave since 2022 and has been working for a consulting firm since December 2022 which may have business with the County addressing stormwater problems; also expressed need for Commissioner Bowling to address derogatory and racist comments left on his social media; and concerns what Bryans Road VFD can post on their signage, like No Charter.
- Speaker spoke on concerns about changing the name of Black History Month citing his experience as President of NAACP; examples of difference in heritage and history and shared photos of what he feels African American Heritage cannot explain and why the name should not be changed.
- Speaker expressed the need for all the Commissioners to uphold the oath they took for running the County and that they are setting a bad example which is a negative impact on the youth; the Commissioners must do the right thing and stop deceiving the community.

Virtual:

- Speaker expressed concerns on the significant costs of the proposed Charter and lack of transparency and unpredictable financial impact on the community; he was also concerned

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about the broad powers to the County Executive and urged residents to consider financial implications before voting for Charter.

- Speaker expressed concerns about lack of resources and family friendly amenities in the Bryans Road Area; also concerned with safety at problematic intersections.
- Speaker expressed support for communities under the Docket 90 agreement and need to uphold original intent of the agreement; Requested government oversight of the Planning Design Review Boards (PDRB) in communities and policy updates related to having the Resilience Authority support communities.
- Speaker spoke on the allegations related to misconduct of a member of the Charter Board and questioned how these complaints are handled; also questioned the use of the term “agency” in the Charter and if it includes Charles County Sheriff’s Department, Charles County Fire Department, Charles County Public Schools; need for a task force to address water issues; and the potential double dipping by Commissioner Patterson while a special education teacher.
- Speaker expressed concerns about transparency and accountability in the Charter Board meetings related to potential additional costs, tax increases and government service e changes; urged everyone to review the charter; encouraged further investigation of the County Administrator working as a consultant.
- Speaker expressed concerns with the need for more schools in the Bryans Road area with all the new development; also concerned residents were not informed of all this development; Commissioners encourage residents to voice concerns, but no action is taken.
- Speaker expressed frustration with elected officials and question their priorities and need to provide accurate information to the community as they did related to the Burial Grounds issue and the second Sargeant report should be released; Elected officials need to fulfill their responsibilities without expensive redesign of government and feels that Commissioner Bowling and Stewart are looking out for the taxpayers.

At 6:10 p.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Coates, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adjourn.

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President