

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2002**

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Ernest J. Gregg, Jr.
Commissioner Wendell R. Beitzel
Commissioner Frederick A. Holliday
County Administrator R. Lamont Pagenhardt

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting Agenda. Mr. Pagenhardt indicated that there was one addition and no deletions to the Public Session agenda for January 29, 2002. Howard Gerard requested time to meet with the Board to discuss community awareness for "citizens who are shut in".
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of January 22, 2002 and Executive Session of January 22, 2002 were read and approved on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
3. The Board of County Commissioners conducted the Monthly Staff Meeting for January. The following agencies and departments were in attendance:

Ruth Enlow Library
Department of Social Services
Department of Economic Development
Department of Emergency Management
Department of Financial Services
Mountain Top Mental Health Associates
Department of Planning and Zoning
Garrett County Extension Service
Western Maryland Consortium
Garrett County Chamber of Commerce
The Dove Center
Garrett County Board of Education

4. In compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act under section 10-509, a record of the Executive Session for January 22, 2002 is hereby documented on this date, the next open/public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, moved into Executive Session under section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date to discuss financial issues with Garrett County Community Action Committee pertaining to the Crellin Flood Mitigation Project.

The same motion moved back to public session. In attendance for this session were Duane Yoder, President of Community Action, Gary Mullich, Director of the Department of General Services, Brad Frantz, Director of the Department of Emergency Management, and Loring Young, a representative from Community Action. The Board of County Commissioners discussed the issue presented by Mr. Yoder, whereby indications from the Maryland Department of the Environment that there is \$130,000 available from the Crellin Flood Mitigation Grant. However, any grant funds will require a local match of twenty-five percent (25%). The Board and those in attendance also addressed a public information concern from Michael Collins, who had expressed his displeasure with the Crellin Flood Mitigation Project and how it pertained to his residence. Mr. Yoder had prepared a letter of response to Mr. Pagenhardt's request that a history of Mr. Collins' residence and the Project be explained. A copy of this letter of explanation will be forwarded to Mr. Collins.

5. Mr. Gerard met with the Board of County Commissioners to request support and comments for his advocacy to provide visitation for County residents who are shut-in. Also in attendance was American Legion Commander Edward Nazelrod. Mr. Gerard was commended by the Board for his efforts and it was suggested that he contact the Garrett County Health Department, Garrett County Community Action, and the Mountain Top Ministerial Association to work with the number of social and human services programs already in place.
6. Thomas Bratten, Secretary of the State of Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs met with the Board of County Commissioners to reiterate his previous request that the Board of County Commissioners creates a Commission for Handicapped Individuals. The Board agreed with this suggestion and according to Secretary Bratten, the following individuals are willing to serve on this commission:

William Aspinall, Executive Director, Appalachian Crossroads
Darla Custer, community representative
Howard Gerard, community representative

Secretary Bratten also informed the Board that he would serve on the Commission and requested that Mr. Pagenhardt, Chairman Gregg, and Gary Mullich, Director of the Department of General Services serve. The Board, on a motion by Chairman Gregg, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Commissioner Holliday, agreed to appoint these seven (7) individuals to the Commission. Letters of appointment will be sent to all members under the signature of Chairman Gregg.

7. The Board of County Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on the adoption of the International Building Codes by Garrett County Government. There were a number of public comments on this issue and the Board agreed to keep the record open for ten (10) days to allow for additional public comment.
8. Jon Burrell, Executive Director and Jennifer Myers, Loss Control Training Coordinator with the Local Government Insurance Trust were in attendance to present the Board of County Commissioners with a grant award for an automated external defibrillator. Mr. Burrell commended Linda Gnegy, County Risk Manager for her submittal of the successful grant application.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved a real property tax credit for the Avilton Community Association. A letter indicating this action will be sent to the Association.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beitzel, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, appointed Edgar Harman and Susan Athey-Oxford to the Garrett County Health Planning Council. Letters of appointment will be sent to all members under the signature of Chairman Gregg.
3. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved interim financing documents for the Meadow Mountain Sewer Project on behalf of the Garrett County Sanitary District, Inc. in the amount of \$408,100.
4. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beitzel, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, moved into Executive Session under section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date to discuss financial and economic development issues and an offer to purchase real property. The same motion moved back to public session.
5. The Board of County Commissioners approved a long-term care insurance proposal from CAN. This program was offered to all employees of Garrett County Government, the Garrett County Board of Education, and Garrett Community College with the group rate available at the absolute discretion of the employee. Commissioner Beitzel stated that his approval of the plan was contingent on the premise that any employee informational meetings be scheduled on the employee's own time and not during regular operating hours. Mr. Pagenhardt and the Office of Human Resources will administer the specifics of this employee benefit plan.
6. The remainder of the day was spent in administrative session.
7. Commissioner Beitzel and Commissioner Holliday attended an evening function with Hannah Byron, Director of the State of Maryland Office of Tourism and Chairman Gregg attended a Dove Center Board of Directors meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Ernest J. Gregg, Jr., Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date