

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2005

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Ernest J. Gregg

Commissioner David C. Beard

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 were no additions or deletions to the Public Meeting of January 25, 2005.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of January 25, 2005 and Executive Minutes of January 25, 2005 were read, amended, and approved on a motion by Commissioner Beard, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
3. Sheriff Richard Sanders and Gary Mullich, Director, Department of General Services briefed the Board of County Commissioners on preliminary site/architectural plans for the new Detention Center. This capital project is being considered for program funding at the State of Maryland level with construction to begin in Fiscal Year 2007. The cost estimates are \$10,400,000 with an actual site development is predicated on the relocation of the County Roads Department to the Public Works Site.
4. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed recommendations from staff with the Department of Planning and Land Development that would amend the existing provisions of the Building Permit Fee Resolution. The change or amendment includes utility towers (radio, television, cellular telephone antennas, electric generating wind turbines and the like). Suggested language to read "\$1.00 per foot in elevation above ground level up to 200 feet and \$10.00 per foot thereafter measured to the highest point of any part of the tower including the blades of any wind turbine". The Board directed staff to revise the policy to include language to read "\$1.00 per foot in elevation above ground level to the highest point of any part of the tower to include the blades of any wind turbine, with a minimum \$60 fee". Also, "private non-utility telecommunication towers will have a fee of \$30". This fee will cover the administrative inspection fee for this service. Official action of approval will be taken later once this draft policy, to include a minimum fee, is prepared.

5. The Board of County Commissioners and Department of Financial Services staff reviewed the cost for the procurement of equipment, services, and material with the State of Maryland contract or that of local vendors. Brian Bowers, Procurement Officer, presented a specific comparison report for vehicles to be requested in the next budget cycle. Due to pending budget research planning, Mr. Pagenhardt requested that the Board provide direction on soliciting bids or procuring from the State contract. The Board will not amend the current policy of purchasing from the State contract.
6. Representatives from Harvey House, a local mental health center, briefed the Board of County Commissioners on program activities that are provided at this location. This organization develops a self-help, mutual support, and advocacy association by and for all persons who have been diagnosed with a mental illness. Services provided are socialization, crafts, games, support groups, meals, and transportation.
7. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming week.
8. Third, fourth and fifth grade students and staff from Swan Meadow School presented the Board of County Commissioners with a recommendation to adopt and designate a Garrett County bird and flower. The process would include decision matrix whereby students from other schools would participate in the final selection. The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed to proceed with the project. Final results will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for final designation and adoption.
9. The Board of County Commissioners met with representatives from the Board of Education to discuss the issue of reimbursement of forward funding for the Northern Garrett High School capital improvement projects in Fiscal Year 2004 and a planned capital project, that will require forward funding, in Fiscal Year 2005 and 2006. Wendy Yoder, Director, Department of Financial Services and Mr. Pagenhardt presented a financial report on the Fiscal Year 2004 funding analysis and reimbursement from the State. Wendell Teets, Superintendent of Schools, presented a letter explaining the request for forward funding of \$530,000 for the Southern Garrett High School roof project in Fiscal Year 2006. A revised Capital Improvement Program for 2006 to 2013 was distributed showing the funding amendments if approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beard, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, agreed to forward fund the State percentage for the Southern Garrett High School Project.

10. In compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act under Section 10-509, a record of the Executive Session for January 25, 2005 is hereby documented on this date, the next open/public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

At the recommendation of Mr. Pagenhardt, the Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beard, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, moved into Executive Session under Section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date to address personnel matters.

Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed his opinion that the Board considers requesting an opinion from the Ethics Commission as it may relate to or be pertinent to a private business involvement of a County employee and their management position with County Government. Prior to this session, Mr. Pagenhardt had secured the opinion of County Attorney Gorman Getty. The Board concurred with this proposal and the Commission was sent a letter asking for a review.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of correspondences and communications with the Board of County Commissioners.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Beard, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, approved a real property tax abatement for the Avilton Community Association. This approval is in accordance with the Code of Garrett County, Maryland whereby an annual abatement is granted upon request.
3. In reference to issue # 4 of the Public Session, the Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Beard, which was seconded by Chairman Gregg, and made unanimous by Commissioner Holliday, approved the amendments to the Resolution as discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

Ernest J. Gregg, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date