

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
Monday, February 1, 2021
Meeting was Held via Video Conference

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Paul C. Edwards
Commissioner James C. Hinebaugh
Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:00 PM

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation by Commissioner Tichnell

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Mr. Null indicated there was no addition or deletion to the Public Meeting Agenda. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda for February 1, 2021.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2021.
3. **Update on County Response to COVID-19:** Robert Stephens, Garrett County Health Officer provided an update on COVID-19 and vaccine.

Rate

- Case rate is 18.17/100,000 - lowest in state
- Positivity rate – 6.89%, two weeks ago the County’s rate was 14.9%. State average is 5.61%

Vaccine

- 11.2% of the population has been vaccinated - third highest in State.
- 107.9% of the vaccines we received has been administered “shots in arms”. This number is over 100% because the “second shot” dose was used.
- The Garrett County Health Department (GCHD) Clinic has focused on Group 1A and 75 and older. GCHD will begin 65 and older this week, however clinics are fully booked.
- Vaccine supply is limited. The GCHD was receiving 600 doses a week. Currently allocated 300 per week by the State and vaccine has been allocated to Walmart in Oakland.
- Walmart is independent from the County and is not required to follow the same guidelines.
- Governor Larry Hogan announced that the National Guard will be deployed to help with vaccinations. Three sites will be opened next week in central Maryland. Western Maryland site has not been determined. At this time, we do not believe that vaccine doses will be transferred from Garrett County to the Western Maryland site.
- No vaccine has been spoiled. All doses have been used.

Questions

- If you receive your first shot at Walmart where can they get the second shot? Answer: *Should make every attempt to get shot at Walmart.*
- Do the 300 doses allocated to Garrett County include the second dose? Answer: *No, GCHD will receive 300 doses plus what is required for the second dose.*
- Will the second shot be held in reserve? Answer: *No plans at this time*

4. Board Reappointments – Garrett County Emergency Services Board

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, reappointed the following individuals to the Emergency Services Board:

Reappointments - 2-Year Terms

Louis Battistella
William Ingram
George “Sonny” Vincent

Official letters will be sent to all appointees under the signature of Chairman Edwards outlining the terms of appointment.

5. The Board of County Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on January 19, 2021 to review the following applicants who requested their land to be established as a Garrett County Agricultural Preservation District – Bear Creek Legacy Area:

Applicants:

Tom and Mary Rosser – 126.04 Acres
Chester L. Yoder – 172.2 Acres
Steven Margroff – 51.98 Acres

No Public comments were received. On the recommendation from the Garrett County Agricultural Land Advisory Board and the Garrett County Planning Commission, the Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved each request. The Garrett County Department of Planning & Land Management will finalize each application and ensure the recording of the Garrett County Agricultural Land Preservation District Agreements for each individual.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Two comments were received in *gcomments*, one was addressed in Robert Stephens presentation and the other was an invitation.
7. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via live stream.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 4:35 P.M.

Attest:

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

By Order of the Board,

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners