

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING**

Monday, May 3, 2021

Meeting was Held via Video Conference/Limited Seating

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 4:05 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 May 3, 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 April 20, 2021.
3. **Update on County Response to COVID-19:** Robert Stephens, Garrett County Health Officer provided an update on COVID-19 and vaccine.
 - ❖ Case rate is 8.37%, slightly below State average.
 - 70% of county population over 65 is vaccinated.
 - 42.4% of county population over 16 is vaccinated compared to 55.9% state-wide.
 - Lower vaccination rate is not due to lack of vaccine but rather hesitant.
 - Variants of COVID are circulating and it important to be vaccinated. The vaccine is effective against the variants.
 - ❖ Thirteen (13) vaccination events scheduled this week:
MEDCO Tuesday and Thursday
FEMA (GCC Technologies) Tuesday-Saturday
Strike Teams:
 - Bittinger Fire Department, Tuesday 12:00-6:00PM
 - Bloomington Fire Department, Wednesday 12:00-6:00PM
 - Friendsville Fire Department, Thursday, 12:00-6:00PM
 - Eastern Garrett Fire Department, Friday, 12:00-6:00PM
 - Crellin Senior Center, Saturday, 12:00-6:00PM
 - Kitzmiller Community Center, Saturday, 12:00-6:00PM
 - ❖ Mother's Day is Sunday-Honor your mother but don't invite COVID along-stay safe.
4. **Proclamations:**
 - ❖ Children's Mental Health Week – May 2-8, 2021
 - ❖ Mental Health Month – May 2021
 - ❖ Foster Care Month – May 2021

5. **Real Property Exemption**

Accident Community Housing Corporation – Request for Fiscal Year 2022 County Property Tax Abatement request under Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 7-502.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved a real property exemption for Fiscal Year 2022 for Accident Community Housing Corporation.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC MEETING AND OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

On a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Meeting was closed and the Public Hearing opened at 4:25 p.m.

6. **Garrett County Department of Solid Waste & Recycling – Amendment to the Ten Year Solid Waste Management Plan**

In accordance with Maryland Department of the Environment regulations, the Board of County Commissioners conducted a **Public Hearing** on this date to receive public commentary on an amendment to the Ten Year Solid Waste Management Plan that would formally adopt methods for an Office Building Recycling Plan.

Kimberly Madigan, Recycling Coordinator, Garrett County Department of Solid Waste & Recycling, stated that this amendment is a requirement of the Maryland Department of the Environment. The amendment would require office buildings with 150,000 square feet of office space to provide containers necessary for the recycling of office paper, cardboard, metals, and #1 and #2 plastics. The receptacles are required to be in place by October 1, 2021. Currently, the County is unaware of any office building in Garrett County that would need to comply with this requirement.

The record for this Hearing will be left open until Tuesday, May 18, 2021 for public comment. Comments may be submitting to gcomments@garrettcountry.org.

MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

On a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Hearing was closed and the Public Meeting opened at 4:29 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 7. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. via live stream and with limited seating at Garrett College located in the GIEC Building Room 111.

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

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners