

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, March 7, 2022

Meeting was also Live Streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/garrettcountygovernment/>

IN ATTENDANCE

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

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. **Board Appointments**

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

- **Garrett County Local Management Board – 3 Year Terms**
Appointment – Heather Hanline
- **Garrett County Emergency Services Advisory Board – Bittinger Rescue Squad Representative**
Appointment – Justin Orendorf

2. **Avilton Community Association – Request for Fiscal Year 2023 County Property Tax Abatement**

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Edwards, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Commissioner Tichnell, approved a real property tax exemption for Avilton Community Association for Fiscal Year 2023.

3. **Town of Kitzmiller - Request for funding of \$2,775 to help cover the cost of fireworks at Kitzmiller's Annual Homecoming on July 23, 2022.**

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards approved a donation of \$2,775 to the Town of Kitzmiller.

4. Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative, non-privileged personnel, and managerial matters under his authority and jurisdiction with the Board of County Commissioners.

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 March 7, 2022.
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 February 7, 2022.
3. **Garrett Regional Medical Center Lease Agreement with WVU Medicine**
County Attorney Gorman E. Getty, III provided an overview of the process of the Lease Agreement between the Board of Garrett County Commissioners and Garrett Regional Medication Center (GRMC)

Lease Agreement with WVU Medicine. This Agreement will enable GRMC to continue to provide high quality health care to the community as envisioned by Mr. George W. Loar when he provided for the creation of Garrett Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Getty recognized and thanked GRMC Board of Governor members Scott Robinson, Dr. Karl Schwalm, and Shane Grady as well as GRMC President Mark Boucot and CFO Tracy Lipscomb.

Mr. Getty provided an overview of the Resolution authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to execute a Lease Agreement for the lease of Hospital property to be signed at a later date.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved Resolution 2022-1 authorizing the Board of County Commissioners to execute a Lease Agreement with Garrett Regional Medical Center and WVU Medicine to be signed at a later date.

4. Maryland Television Accessibility Update

The Board of County Commissioners received a request to review the availability of Maryland Television Station access in the County. County Attorney Gorman E. Getty, III provided an update stating there have been no changes since Garrett County first explored this in 2019. While the Board of County Commissioners in general support the idea, they will not support the request if it means the loss of Pittsburg television stations.

Mr. Getty explained that, based upon his research and discussions with attorneys who specialize in this area, if a television “market” change is approved customers would not have the ability to choose the television stations and it would be unlikely that they could keep Pittsburg television stations.

5. Discussion – Garrett County Official Song – *Garrett County Time*

The Board of County Commissioners received a request to name ***Garrett County Time*** the Official Song of Garrett County. Robert Smith, the song writer has agreed to allow the County to use the song. Chairman Edwards announced that the County will receive comments until March 22, 2022, and if there are no objections, the County will consider naming ***Garrett County Time*** the County’s official song.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Question concerning the process to move forward with adding Maryland television stations. A group have been formed to gather community input and support. County Attorney Getty explained the process and offered his services to the group.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse.

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 4:26 P.M.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners