

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING**

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Held at Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department

IN ATTENDANCE

**Chairman Paul C. Edwards
Commissioner Ryan S. Savage
Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell**

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 6:08 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 Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda for June 20, 2023.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of June 5, 2023.
3. **BOARD REAPPOINTMENTS:** The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, reappointed the following individuals:

- ❖ Deep Creek Watershed Board of Appeals – Three (3) Year Terms.

Reappointments

Robert Hoffman

Bruce Swift

- ❖ Garrett County Law Enforcement Officers Pension System Board of Directors – Term Extension of One (1) Year

Reappointment

Lieutenant Mark Pfaff

4. APPROVAL: AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION DISTRICTS

The Board of County Commissioners held a Public Hearing on June 5, 2023 to review four (4) Garrett County Agricultural Land Preservation District Applicants who requested that their land be established as a Garrett County Agricultural Preservation District.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the four (4) applicants. The Garrett County Department of Community Development & Planning – Planning & Land Development Division will formalize this through an Agreement with the landowners.

5. The Garrett County Department of Financial Services – Purchasing Division presented the following recommendations:

Bid #23-0511 – Request for Proposals – Design/Build Fork Run Trail Improvements

One (1) Bid response was received for this Bid: Appalachian Dirt (\$49,851.50)

After a review of the design/build proposal by the Selection Committee, the Garrett County Purchasing Department recommended awarding the Bid to Appalachian Dirt.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Bid Award as recommended. This project is funded through the Local Parks Playground Infrastructure Funding Program.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:**

- ❖ Chairman Edwards thanked the Bloomington Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the meeting and presented a \$250 check for use of the facilities.
- ❖ The Board of County Commissioners provided a brief summary of happenings in the County:
 - The Fiscal Year 2024 Garrett County Government Budget was approved with no tax increase and \$2 million less than current budget
 - Education funding impact on future budgets will cost Garrett County taxpayers \$16 million more over the next 9 years, and it could be more. This does not include capital funding projects.
 - The County provided \$14 million for the renovation of Southern High and Southern Middle schools. The State’s share of construction previously was a 60/40 split, as of this date, it is a 90/10 split but the County is not sure how long that will last.
 - RS BioTherapeutics, Inc signed an agreement to purchase the MEDCO building in the McHenry Business Park. Over the next five years they are expected to hire 100 plus employees.
 - Broadband expansion is occurring in all areas of the County; there is a project to bring high speed internet to Bloomington.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ❖ The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Monday, July 3, 2023, 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 Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 6:26 P.M.

Attest:

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

By Order of the Board,

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners