BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Meeting was also Live Streamed at http://www.garrettcountymd.gov/live

IN ATTENDANCE

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

County Administrator Kevin G. Null

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

❖ BOARD APPOINTMENT: Deep Creek Watershed Board of Zoning Appeals

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 reappointment of Stephen Gnegy to the Garrett County Deep Creek Watershed Board of Zoning Appeals.

This appointment is for a three (3) year term and will expire on September 30, 2028. An official letter will be sent to Mr. Gnegy under the signature of Chairman Edwards outlining the terms of appointment.

Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative 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 were two additions to the Public Meeting; a proclamation to the Recovery House proclaiming the week of September 8–14, 2025 as Garrett County Recovery Week, and a bid award for Bloomington Community Park Path Paving Bid #IFB-25-RT2405. 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 revised Public Meeting Agenda for September 2, 2025.
- 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 August 18, 2025.
- 3. **PROCLAMATION:** Garrett County Recovery Week September 8 14, 2025.
- 4. The Garrett County Department of Financial Services Purchasing Division presented the following recommendation:

BID #IFB-25-RT2405 - Bloomington Community Park Walking Path Paving Project

Three (3) bids received: Beitzel Excavating & Paving, LLC (\$27,129.01), BYCO Enterprises, Inc. (\$64,746.20), First Fruits Excavating, Inc. (\$38,486.00).

After reviewing the Bids for compliance with administrative requirements and based on feedback from the Department of Community Development and Planning, the Garrett County Department of Financial Services - Purchasing Division recommended awarding the Bid to Beitzel Excavating & Paving, LLC in the amount of \$27,129.01. The project is funded through a combination of sources – Fiscal Year 2024 Recreational Trails Grant, Fiscal Year 2024 Program Open Space Grant, and Garrett County Government funding of \$3,000.00.

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.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT - Appointment of Garrett County Board of Education Member

The Board of County Commissioners announced the appointment of Dr. Jane Widesen to fill the vacancy on the Garrett County Board of Education due to the resignation of Mr. Matthew Trezise. Dr. Wildesen is an innovative and strategic educational leader with more than 35 years of dedicated service with the Garrett County Public Schools. Her career spans PreK–12 instruction, school and district-level administration, curriculum development, human resources, labor relations, and state-level policy engagement. She has consistently led transformative initiatives that strengthen instructional quality, promote equity, and build strong community partnerships.

Previously, Dr. Wildesen directed Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle School Education, where she secured state grants to expand PreK, implemented readiness and accountability measures, and advanced school improvement efforts across multiple grade levels. She also served as Principal of Southern Middle School, where she fostered a collaborative, data-informed culture that improved student outcomes.

The Board County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, appointed Dr. Wildesen to the Garrett County Board of Education to fulfill the unexpired term of Matthew Trezise.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Several 9/11 remembrance events will be held throughout the County next week. The Board of County Commissioners encouraged citizens to take a moment to honor and reflect on the lives lost on September 11, 2001.
- The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 4:09 P.M.

Attest:	By Order of the Board,
KEVIN G. NULL	PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
County Administrator	Board of County Commissioners