

# BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Monday, November 3, 2025

Meeting was also Live Streamed at <http://www.garrettcounty.md.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:** Garrett County Local Management Board – Appointment of William Meagher, III to the Garrett County Local Management Board for a three (3) year term that will expire on November 2, 2028.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved Mr. Meagher's appointment.

An official letter of appointment will be sent to Mr. Meagher under the signature of Chairman Edwards.

- ❖ **RFQ Fork Run Master Plan** - This project is funded through the Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure (LPPI) Program.

Seven proposals were received: Aspen Grove Creatives (\$40,300.00), Rock Solid Trail Contracting (\$27,290.00), Penn Trails (\$29,342.00), Lardner/Klein Landscaping Architects (\$29,998.00), Civil & Environment Consultants (\$29,300.00), Schubbe Consulting (\$27,500.00), and Small Mountain Trails (\$27,360.00).

Based on the committee's qualitative review and best-value determination, the recommendation is to award the contract to Penn Trails in the amount of \$29,342.00.

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 contract for Penn Trails in the amount of \$29,342.00.

- ❖ 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 was no addition or deletion to the Public Meeting. 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 November 3, 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 and Executive Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2025.
3. PROCLAMATION: Rotary Club of Oakland – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

4. The Garrett County Department of Financial Services - Purchasing Division presented the following recommendations:

**Bid #25-1021W – Winter Abrasives and Road Salt**

Eight (8) responses were received for this Bid:

George's Creek Stone & Gravel, Inc.  
Keystone Lime Company, Inc. - Eichorn  
Keystone Lime Company, Inc. – Cranesville  
Fairfax Concrete Products

Maryland Minerals, Inc.  
Allegany Aggregates, Inc.  
Morton Salt, Inc.  
Cargill Inc.

After reviewing the Bids for compliance with administrative requirements and based on feedback received from the Garrett County Department of Public Works – Roads Division, the Purchasing Division recommended accepting the bids from the following vendors:

George's Creek Stone & Gravel, Inc.  
Keystone Lime Company, Inc. - Eichorn  
Keystone Lime Company, Inc. – Cranesville  
Fairfax Concrete Products

Maryland Minerals, Inc.  
Allegany Aggregates, Inc.  
Morton Salt, Inc.

The Roads Division will determine the quarry to purchase winter abrasives and road salt based on garage location, hauling cost, and availability. Specifics of the award for type of product and vendor are on file with the Purchasing Division.

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 as recommended.

5. **Request for Funding: Opioid Abatement Funds – Overdose Prevention Team – Trauma-Informed Care Program.**

Shannon Sexton, Program Coordinator at the Garrett County Health Department presented a request for \$398,000 from the Opioid Abatement Funds for Trauma-Informed Care Program in conjunction with the Garrett County Board of Education.

These funds would develop and implement a sustainable professional development program focused on trauma-informed care and child well-being. The program would address the urgent need to support children and families impacted by the opioid epidemic by equipping educators, healthcare providers, social workers, and child service professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand and respond to trauma associated with opioid misuse and addiction.

The program is divided into five components - staff development, supplemental education within schools, mind/body concept, "Safe Space" for students, and staff wellness. Funds are available and are an acceptable use of the funds.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved funding for the program.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- ❖ **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits:** Chairman Edwards addressed the potential loss of SNAP benefits in Garrett County. County Administrator Null provided an update on a recent meeting with the Garrett County Health Department, Garrett County Department of Social Services, and Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc. concerning this potential loss.

This meeting was held prior to Governor Moore's emergency funding announcement of \$10 million from the State. The consensus of the group was that the best way to service those that may lose SNAP benefits is to provide support to the existing food banks. The request was for \$25,000 to be

allocated to food banks in the County with Community Action Committee, Inc., being responsible for the distribution of funds.

Chairman Edwards stated that WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) program, which is administered by the Health Department, is fully funded and designed to benefit children. This program is separate from SNAP benefits.

Chairman Edwards asked for a motion; Commissioner Tichnell made a motion to authorize up to \$25,000, if needed to help fund local food banks to support the loss of SNAP benefits.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved funding of \$25,000, if needed to support local food banks.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- ❖ SNAP benefits - monthly cost of benefits in Garrett County is \$500,000. \$25,000 is a “drop in the bucket” and is disappointing.
- ❖ Appreciate the Commissioners providing emergency funding but what is the long-term plan with additional cuts, i.e. energy assistance?
- ❖ Chairman Edwards stated he expects agencies to address needs during the budget process. He also stated that the County will not and cannot backfill all services.
- ❖ What is the County doing with community problems? Should schedule an emergency meeting and rally people to help. Provide leadership.

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ❖ The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 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 4:43 P.M.

**Attest:**

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**KEVIN G. NULL**  
County Administrator

**By Order of the Board,**

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**PAUL C. EDWARDS**, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners