

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
March 6, 2012

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman James M. Raley
Commissioner Gregan T. Crawford
Commissioner Robert G. Gatto

County Administrator R. Lamont Pagenhardt

PUBLIC SESSION

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting Agenda. Mr. Pagenhardt indicated there was 1 addition and 3 deletions to the Public Meeting Agenda for March 6, 2012. ADDITION: Commissioner Crawford asked to have time after the approval of minutes for a brief statement relative to the Deep Creek Lake Phase II Sediment Study. DELETIONS: (1) It was noted on the Public Meeting Agenda that the Board of County Commissioners would be discussing the Draft Deep Creek Lake Phase II Sediment Study in Administrative Session on this date. Due to the availability of staff and time constraints for a review, that issue was discussed on March 5, 2012 and reflected in those meeting minutes. (2) The Session with Garrett College will be rescheduled for March 19, 2012. (3) The administrative session with State Highway Administration was postponed and will be rescheduled.

Mr. Pagenhardt also listed issues to be addressed in administrative session on this date. A motion by Commissioner Crawford, which was seconded by Commissioner Gatto, and made unanimous by Chairman Raley, approved the agenda.

2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Crawford, which was seconded by Commissioner Gatto, and made unanimous by Chairman Raley, approved the Public Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2012, Executive Session for February 7, 2012, Administrative Session of February 14, 2012, Administrative Session of February 21, 2012 (with approved changes noted by Commissioner Crawford), and Administrative Session of March 5, 2012.
3. Commissioner Crawford presented a public statement on funding for the Deep Creek Lake Phase II Sediment Study which is attached to these public meeting minutes as Exhibit 1. Chairman Raley stated that he would be meeting with the State Department Natural Resources on March 8, 2012 relative to this study and at that time he will assure that the additional funds agreed to on March 5, 2012 by the Board of County Commissioners are in the best interest of the objective of the Study. If after that meeting he determines that the decision to direct these additional funds is not in the best interest of the County he will reconsider his support of the appropriation.

4. Steven Fratz, Director, Board of Elections updated the Board of County Commissioners on the following issues:
 - a) Update of County Commissioner Districts after the 2010 Census.
 - b) Update on 2012 Primary and General Election.

5. Nicole Christian, President and Chief Executive Officer, Garrett County Chamber of Commerce updated the Board of County Commissioners on the following issues:
 - a) Update on marketing and visitor marketing tools used in the promotion of Garrett County.
 - b) Review of accommodation sales (hotel rental tax) collected 2002 to 2012. Included in this review was a summary of sales tax collected and forwarded to the State of Maryland.
 - c) Presentation of television promotional campaign commercials currently running in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area, a Public Broadcasting Service tourism series with Garrett County highlighted as a specific episode
 - d) Update on Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area Plan by Deirdre Ritchie, Garrett County Heritage Area Manager.
 - e) Other departmental issues.

6. Linda Lindsey, Director, Department of Public Utilities presented a contract amendment for design and construction for the Thayerville Water System Project to the Board of County Commissioners. The Board, on a motion by Commissioner Crawford, which was seconded by Commissioner Gatto, and made unanimous by Chairman Raley, approved the contract amendment as presented. Copy of the contract amendment is on file with the Department of Public Utilities for review.

7. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed a request for execution of a Resolution that reads “the Board of Garrett County Commissioners will work in partnership with the North South Appalachian Highway Coalition to advocate the completion of the North South Appalachian Highway”. Previous Boards of County Commissioners had executed such a Resolution and this Resolution would reflect the current Board. The Boards of County Commissioners of Allegany County, Maryland and Somerset County, Pennsylvania executed a similar Resolution.

The Board, on a motion by Commissioner Gatto, which was seconded by Chairman Raley, and made unanimous by Commissioner Crawford, executed the Resolution on this date.

8. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Crawford, which was seconded by Commissioner Gatto, and made unanimous by Chairman Raley, appointed Bill Aiken (landowner) and James Stanton (environmentalist) to the Board of County Commissioners Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission. Official letters will be sent to each appointee under the signature of Chairman Raley outlining the terms of this appointment. Chairman Raley requested that letters of interest from Melissa O’Neal and Mike Herdering be retained for future consideration.

9. Heather Hanline, Executive Director, Dove Center updated the Board of County Commissioners on the following agency issues:
 - a) Update on shelter statistics and activity.

- b) Public awareness campaign and education review. These include brochures, billboard, and a community newsletter that focuses on domestic violence prevention and safety planning.
 - c) Expansion on volunteer base recruitment.
 - d) Other agency updates.
10. Public Commentary. Richard Helbig provided his comments on income raised from wind generation and natural gas drilling and these sources of revenue should not be discounted. Mr. Helbig also asked Chairman Raley on specific questions on the Governor's Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Initiative Commission.
 11. Carol Riley-Alexander, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming weeks.
 12. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Crawford, which was seconded by Commissioner Gatto, and made unanimous by Chairman Raley, executed a Resolution hereby setting the date and time of the County tax Sale to be held on Friday, May 4, 2012, at 10:00 AM held in the Board of Garrett Commissioners Public Meeting Room.
 13. The Board of County Commissioners provided an update of 2012 Legislation that is before the Maryland General Assembly. Commissioner Crawford noted issues of importance that are currently being watched by the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo).
 14. Chairman Raley and Mr. Pagenhardt announced that the Board of County Commissioners will be meeting in Administrative Session on Tuesday March 13, 2012. A draft agenda was presented.
 15. In compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act under section 10-508, a record of the Executive Session for February 7, 2012 is hereby documented on this date, the next open/public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Gatto, which was seconded by Commissioner Crawford, and made unanimous by Chairman Raley, moved into Executive Session under section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date to discuss finance, legal, and personnel matters pertaining to Adventure Sports Center International (ASCI). The same motion ended the Executive Session.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Raley, which was seconded by Commissioner Gatto, and made unanimous by Commissioner Crawford, approved a real estate tax credit for the following entities:
 - a) Avilton Community Association
 - b) Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc.
 - Overlook Early Learning Education Center
 - Grantsville Senior Center
 - Lot (112 Liberty Street, Oakland, MD)
 - Liberty Street Center
 - Former M&T Bank Building (Kitzmilller, MD)
 - Transit Maintenance Building

- c) Catholic Charities – Backbone Housing, Inc. (Tax Year 2012)
- d) Catholic Charities – Backbone Housing, Inc. (Tax Year 2013)

- 2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Raley, which was seconded by Commissioner Crawford, and made unanimous by Commissioner Gatto, moved into Executive Session under section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date to discuss legal matters. The same motion ended the Executive Session.
- 3. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of other informational, administrative and pending issues.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
County Administrator

James M. Raley, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Date

EXHIBIT 1

Public Statement of Commissioner Gregan Crawford
Concerning the DNR Phase II Sediment Study for Deep Creek Lake
Issued at the Commissioner's Public Meeting on March 6, 2012

Last year The Board of Commissioners committed \$65,000. from the budget rollover to help fund the cost of the Deep Creek Lake Phase II Sediment Study to be conducted by the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) at a total cost of \$180,000. Because of the economic value of Deep Creek Lake to Garrett County a funding commitment was made, and the Board of Commissioners was unanimous. This action was taken in order to partner with the State and private entities to cover the cost of \$180,000. even though Deep Creek Lake is solely owned by the State of Maryland.

The Department of Natural Resources in conjunction with private entities have combined pledged \$75,000. The remaining balance needed to fund the study was \$40,000. bringing the commitment of the County to a majority share of \$105,000. Before raising our commitment to become the majority funder of the study, I believe that more time is needed in order to address concerns that have been raised about the objectives, the goals, and the scope of the study as well to consider what lasting expectations and implications may be created by the it.

We need to be sure that the study adequately addresses our concerns and the concerns of the stakeholders of Deep Creek Lake. As a Board member, I believe that we should not be committing ourselves, at this point, to pay the majority share when there are still some vagaries that exist in the proposal. With some additional time and consultations, these details can be flushed out. It is imprudent for the Board of Commissioners to sign-off on the Phase II Sediment Study and then attempt to fill in the details.

End of Statement