

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2007

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Ernest J. Gregg

Commissioner Dennis G. Glotfelty

Commissioner Frederick A. Holliday

County Administrator R. Lamont Pagenhardt

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC SESSION

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting Agenda. Mr. Pagenhardt indicated that there were no additions or deletions to the Public Meeting Agenda for October 9, 2007.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of October 2, 2007 were read and approved on a motion by Commissioner Glotfelty, which was seconded by Commissioner Holliday, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
3. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg, executed a Proclamation declaring the month of October 2007 as "Physical Therapy Month in Garrett County".
4. Wendy Yoder, Director, Department of Financial Services briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following issues:
 - a) Local supplemental homeowners tax credit for real property taxpayers over seventy (70) years old. Ms. Yoder requested that the Board consider calculation criteria for this tax credit to include ten (10) year residency and limited income. Ms. Yoder outlined suggested criteria for implementation of this program.
 - b) Update of financial reporting/functions for the Garrett County Partnership for Children and Families.
 - c) Status of Fiscal Year 2007 Financial Audit and notification that an extension will need to be filed.
 - d) Letters have been sent to all volunteer fire and rescue departments requesting documentation for 5008 funds.

- e) Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a request for replacement of a vehicle for the Animal Control Division. The Board approved the purchase of this replacement vehicle and to amend the budget to reflect actual costs.
5. The Purchasing Department presented the Board of County Commissioners with the following recommendation for Request for Proposals award for Design Services – Meadow Mountain Trail (RFP #07-0905). The Board, on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Chairman Gregg, and made unanimous by Commissioner Glotfelty, approved the award to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT) for 54,565.
6. Public Commentary. None on this date.
7. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming week.
8. The Board of County Commissioners conducted a **Public Hearing** to review and receive comments on Agricultural Preservation District Applications and the purchase of Agricultural Land Easements for:
 - a) James and Linda Sherbin (156.10 acres). The Board approved this application on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
 - b) Benjamin Vitez (154.54 acres). The Board approved this application on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
 - c) Frank Vitez (54.83 acres). The Board approved this application on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
 - d) Reece Riley (71.29 acres). The Board approved this application on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.
 - e) George and Sharon Shawley (95.40 acres). The Board approved this application on a motion by Commissioner Holliday, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Chairman Gregg.

The Public Hearing was closed for public commentary. All applications have been approved by the Garrett County AgLand Advisory Board and Planning Commission and recommended for approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of correspondences and communications with the Board of County Commissioners.

2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Gregg, which was seconded by Commissioner Glotfelty, and made unanimous by Commissioner Holliday, appointed Sergeant Michael Bittinger to the Garrett County Law Enforcement Personnel Retirement Plan - Board of Trustees to fulfill the unexpired term of Captain Paul Pratt who has retired from service. An official letter of appointment will be sent to Sergeant Bittinger under the signature of Chairman Gregg.
3. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a letter from the Mayor and Town Council of Friendsville requesting that the Board of County Commissioners reconsider their decision to approve funding for a pedestrian bridge over Bear Creek that included a provision of a five-year tax differential setoff. The Board agreed to not amend their prior determination with all provisions of funding and terms to remain.
4. The Board of County Commissioners met at the request of Karen Myers to discuss public water and sewer service for the relocation of the Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Company. Senator George Edwards; Delegate Wendell Beitzel; Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Company Officer Robert Browning; Builder Tony Doerr; Department of Public Utilities Director Linda Lindsey; and Department of Public Utilities Superintendent Richard Shoemaker were in attendance for this session. Sale of the property where the new Fire Station would be located included a condition that the Grantsville Rescue Squad – McHenry Station be located at the site. Public commentary was presented by insurance agent Douglas Railey (who expressed a concern on the distance the proposed facility would be from certain sections of the Deep Creek Lake area and the feasibility of a fire sub station) and Garrett County resident Edward Beckman. The Board will take the matter of extending public water service only under advisement.
5. Mr. Pagenhardt requested further direction from the Board of County Commissioners on the legal process for adopting Code Home Form of Government for Garrett County. The Board and senior management staff had met with the Institute for Governmental Services on October 2 who at that time provided an overview of home rule options. The Board will continue to take this matter under advisement.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

 R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
 County Administrator

 Ernest J. Gregg, Chairman
 Board of County Commissioners

 Date