

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING
February 10, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Frederick A. Holliday
Commissioner Dennis G. Glotfelty
Commissioner Ernest J. Gregg

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 for February 10, 2009. Mr. Pagenhardt also noted several matters to be discussed during the administrative session on this date.
2. Minutes of the Public Meeting of February 3, 2009 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Glotfelty, which was seconded by Commissioner Gregg, and made unanimous by Chairman Holliday.
3. Jerome Moyer, General Superintendent, County Roads Department briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following matters:
 - a) Budget year-to-date is at seventy-four percent (74%) of approved level. These expenditures are attributed to stockpiling abrasives and winter operation overtime.
 - b) It was noted that the changing of shift start times reduced the total cost of winter operation overtime expenses.
 - c) Briefing of capital projects for Fiscal Year 2010 to include Glendale Road intersection.
 - d) Update on ice jam on the Savage River that closed Savage River Road on February 9.
 - e) Notification that the County has received one hundred twelve (112) inches of snow year to date.
 - f) Other departmental matters.

4. Linda Lindsey, Director, Department of Public Utilities briefed the Board of County Commissioners on the following matters:
 - a) Water project updates to include, Crellin Water Improvements, McHenry Water, Mountain Lake Park Water Improvements, Thayerville Water System, and Puzzley Run Water Appropriation.
 - b) Sewer project update to include Deep Creek Lake Sewer Western Conveyance System and Friendsville Sewer Inflow and Infiltration.
 - c) Miscellaneous projects to include centrifuge repair to the McHenry Treatment Plant.
 - d) Other departmental matters.
5. Tobie Kinsinger voiced his opinion on outdoor woodstove operation regulations. Staff from the Garrett County Health Department was in attendance for this session.
6. Public Commentary. William Meagher provided the Board of County Commissioners with an update on Imagination Library. Mr. Meagher had previously met with the Board to introduce this program.
7. Carol Riley, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners and County Administrator, reviewed the meeting and committee schedule for the forthcoming week.

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. Mr. Pagenhardt reviewed a number of correspondences and communications with the Board of County Commissioners.
2. The Board of County Commissioners met with John Nelson, Director, Department of Planning and Land Development to discuss the following issues:
 - a) The Board, on a motion by Commissioner Glotfelty, which was seconded by Commissioner Gregg, and made unanimous by Chairman Holliday, re-appointed George Brady to a five (5) year term on the Garrett County Planning Commission. An official letter will be sent to Mr. Brady under the signature of Chairman Holliday.
 - b) The Board executed a letter to the Maryland Department of Planning that amended the existing employment center boundary at the McHenry Business Park and Garrett County Airport for Priority Funding Area (PFA) certification.
 - c) Discussion on pending litigation between Kim K. Leavenworth and the Board of County Commissioners. The Board reviewed a letter from Ms. Leavenworth requesting the County to approve a number of conditions. The County Attorney will respond to legal counsel for Ms. Leavenworth.

3. Bradley Frantz, Director, Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management met with the Board of County Commissioners and Mr. Pagenhardt to discuss the Emergency Services Board and proposed legislation that was repealed for consideration during the 2009 Session by the Board. The Board also discussed issues related to the Maryland Department of the Environment and Oakland flood control dams. This issue will be taken under review by the County Attorney on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.
4. Donald DeWitt, Director, Garrett County Department of Social Services met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss the Grantsville Office of Social Services. Mr. DeWitt informed the Board that there was a potential for a shared program services clerical staff through the Federal Economic Recovery Program Youghioghney Bridge Project which was in his opinion required to allow the public to utilize services at this office. The Board will support the concept of this program.
5. The Board of County Commissioners reviewed a request for projects in lieu of tax differential submitted by the Mayor and Town of Council of Loch Lynn Heights. This was the only municipal government, other than the Mayor and Town Council of Oakland and Mayor and Town Council of Mountain Lake Park who have tax differential agreements that requested projects.
6. James Hinebaugh, Director , Department of Economic Development met with the Board of County Commissioners to discuss the following issues:
 - a) Pending legislation requested by the Board to have the authority to increase the hotel rental tax to eight percent (8%). Mr. Hinebaugh had received the position of rental agents who have the opinion that, given current economic conditions, any increase would be detrimental to the rental market. The Board had notified all rental agencies that it was their intention to increase the hotel rental tax from five percent (5%) to six percent (6%) effective July 1, 2009. On this date, the Board agreed to not change this position.
 - b) Pursuant to a prior public session on January 13, 2009 whereby businesses located in the Garrett Information Enterprise Center (GIEC) requested real property tax relief. The Board agreed to a County tax credit for all GIEC businesses (existing and new) who meet the specific eligibility criteria. The tax credit will be 100% in year 1 and decline 10% each following year - 100% year 1, 90% year 2, 80% year 3, 70% year 4 and 60% year 5. Beginning in year 6, GIEC businesses will pay the full tax due based upon State of Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation real property assessment.
 - c) The Board reviewed conditions/terms of Adventure Sports Center International Contingency Loan Fund. Terms were agreed to as follows:

- 1) The Garrett County Commissioners agree to establish a contingency loan fund as part of the debt workout plan for the Adventure Sports Center, Inc. (ASCI).
 - 2) This fund will be available to ASCI in the event of emergencies or unexpected urgent funding requirements including, but not limited to, equipment failures/repairs, unanticipated maintenance requirements, adverse weather events, etc.
 - 3) The contingency loan fund will be capped at \$300,000.
 - 4) There will be no interest charged on any draws on the fund.
 - 5) If drawn upon, the amount drawn will be repaid in 120 consecutive equal payments with the first payment due 60 days after the draw date.
 - 6) Priority of payments from ASCI will be to participating banks, the Board of County Commissioners, and the State of Maryland in that order.
 - 7) Withdrawals will be reviewed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners.
- d) Discussion on a request by Tri County Council of Western Maryland (TCCWM) for a County match for the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Grant for the Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) Project. TCCWM has been approved for a DLA grant of \$225,000/year for four (4) years and that the grant will require a local match of \$75,000/year (suggested at \$25,000/year from Allegany County, Garrett County, and Washington County). After much discussion, the Board agreed to provide a match of \$25,000 for the first year. This contribution is contingent upon the County's Department of Economic Development coming up with \$25,000 at year end (June 30, 2009) from the Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. The Board did not make any commitment beyond year 1 of the program.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

 R. Lamont Pagenhardt,
 County Administrator

 Frederick A. Holliday, Chairman
 Board of County Commissioners

 Date