

**BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**January 4, 2016**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

**Chairman Paul C. Edwards**  
**Commissioner James C. Hinebaugh, Jr.**  
**Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell**

**County Administrator Kevin G. Null**

**ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION**

The Administrative Session was opened at 3:05 p.m.

1. Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative, non-privileged, personnel, and managerial matters under his authority and jurisdiction with the Board of County Commissioners.

The Administrative Session was closed at 3:45 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:00 PM**

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Additions/deletions to Public Meeting Agenda. Mr. Null indicated there is one addition, a request to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel matters. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda with addition for January 4, 2016.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, by consensus, approved the Public Meeting Minutes and the Executive Meeting Minutes for December 14, 2015.
3. The Deep Creek Watershed Plan (Plan) was submitted to the Board of County Commissioners in October 2014. The Plan has been widely disseminated. Chairman Edwards stated that Goal 12 of the Plan has been modified. In order to provide an opportunity for citizens to review and comment on the change, a Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2016 at Garrett College beginning at 6:00 p.m. Citizens wishing to make comments will be allocated three (3) minutes.

The complete Plan can be viewed on the Garrett County Government website including the Plan's thirteen (13) goals, with the original Goal 12, as well as the modified Goal 12.

4. Re-adoption of Garrett County Government Employees Pension Plans  
Governmental employers sponsoring a tax-qualified retirement plan must file their IRS determination letter requests for the plans every Five (5) years per the IRS. The last filing of the Garrett County Government Personnel Retirement Plan and the Garrett County Law Enforcement Personnel Retirement Plan will expire on January 31, 2016. Therefore a request is made for the approval of the restatement of

the Garrett County Government Personnel Retirement Plan and the Garrett County Law Enforcement Personnel Retirement Plan documents and forms for the required IRS filings.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards voted to adopt the Garrett County Government Personnel Retirement Plan.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards voted to adopt the Garrett County Law Enforcement Personnel Retirement Plan.

5. Meeting with Maryland Department of the Environment

Chairman Edwards announced that the Board of Garrett County Commissioners will be meeting with Maryland Department of the Environment staff on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 to discuss the County's involvement in the development of "Fracking" rules and regulations and to insure that the public has input in the process.

6. Public Comment

Topics of discussion on the Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan

- Have appropriate people been involved in the change to Goal 12?
- What is the time frame for approval of the Plan?
- Could the Plan be changed?
- Participation-everyone within the watershed should have an input in the Plan. Friends of Deep Creek Lake offered to pay for expense of mailing notices to every property in the watershed.
- After hearing, can question and answers be summarized and posted?
- After meeting with MDE can the Board provide an update with a timeline?

Chairman Edwards stated that there is a difference between "adopted" and "implementation", not all items within the Plan will necessarily be implemented.

7. In compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act under Section 10-509, a record of the Executive Session for December 14, 2015 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 Tichnell which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, moved into Executive Session under Section 10-508 of the Maryland Open Meetings Law on this date at 4:07 PM to address personnel matters. The same motion ended the Executive Session at 4:20 PM.

There will be no public disclosure of the topics discussed at this time.

8. Board of County Commissioners Board, Commission, and Appointment Schedule.

The Board of Garrett County Commissioners next scheduled Public Meeting will be Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. A public meeting on the Deep Creek Watershed Plan will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2016 at Garrett College, Room 224 at 6:00 p.m.

9. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the public meeting at 5:00 p.m. to convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin G. Null,  
County Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**By Order of the Board,**

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Paul C. Edwards, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners