

# BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

Meeting was also Live Streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/garrettcountygovernment/>

## IN ATTENDANCE

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

**County Administrator Kevin G. Null**

## ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. **Garrett County Health Department (GCHD)** – Performance Management and Quality Improvement Update. GCHD employees Shelley Argabrite, Health Strategist & Population Health, Innovation & Informatics Unit Director and Heather Cooper, Personal Health Director, presented the Board of County Commissioners with an update on the Performance Management and Quality Improvement programs.
2. **Board Appointments/Reappointments:**
  - ❖ **Garrett County Department of Social Services Board of Directors** – 2-Year Terms  
Appointments  
Holly Fleming  
John Frank  
Melissa King
  - ❖ **Garrett County Mental Health Advisory Committee** – 3-Year Terms  
Appointment  
Kim Gilbert

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 Garrett County Department of Social Services Board of Directors and the Garrett County Mental Health Advisory Committee appointments.

3. **Board Appointment Recommendations:**
  - **Maryland Land Reclamation Committee (LRC)** – Michael Lynch.  
The Maryland LRC is a group of state, local officials, and citizen representatives that approve reclamation plans in new coal mine permits and approve bond releases once the post mining land-use is achieved described in Environmental Article Section 15-204 and 15-205. This Code requires the Committee have a Garrett County Government Representative.
  - **Garrett County Public Schools - Blueprint Implementation Coordinator** – Dr. Nicole Miller  
This position requires input and approval from the Garrett County Public School system and Garrett County Government. The Coordinator is responsible for implementing the Blueprint with fidelity and may help prepare reports and documents to the Maryland State Department of Education or Accountability and Implementation Board. This appointment is an interim appointment.

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 appointments, and recommendations for appointment of Michael Lynch and Dr. Nicole Miller.

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

#### **CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:05 PM**

#### **PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation by Pastor Jeff Kroll**

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Mr. Null indicated there was no addition or deletion to the Public Meeting Agenda. 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 for September 7, 2021.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2021.
3. **Update on County Response to COVID-19:** Robert Stephens, Garrett County Health Officer provided an update on COVID-19 and vaccine.
  - 81 new cases in the last 10 days – highest rate since February
  - 7-day positively rate: 15.9% highest in the State
  - 7-day case rate: 39.88: 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the State
  - Testing is available at the Garrett County Health Department (GCHD) by appointment. GCHD does not have the ability to provide testing for all employers in the County.
  - Get vaccinated, wear a mask, and keep social distance
4. The Garrett County Department of Financial Services – Purchasing Division presented the following Bid recommendations:

#### **Bid #21-0812P – Visitors Center Exterior Painting**

Six (6) Bids was received for this Bid: TJT Services (\$14,800), Hoyman Painting (\$28,997), Titan Industrial Services, Inc. (\$34,200), Ayden Construction, LLC (\$39,000), Colossal Contractors, Inc. (\$44,200), and A.J. Vater & Co., Inc. (\$49,996).

After reviewing the Bids for compliance with administrative requirements and based on the feedback from the Department of Public Works - Utilities Division, the Garrett County Department of Financial Services – Purchasing Division recommended awarding the Bid to TJT Services in the amount of \$14,800.

#### **Bid #21-0812R – Visitors Center Roof Replacement**

Two (2) Bids was received for this Bid: Vertex Roofing Contractors (\$41,500) and Ruff Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. (\$69,560).

After reviewing the Bids for compliance with administrative requirements and based on the feedback from the Department of Public Works - Utilities Division, the Garrett County Department of Financial Services – Purchasing Division recommended awarding the Bid to Vertex Roofing Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$41,500.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Bid Awards as recommended.

5. **Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc. – Emergency Rental Assistant Program Update**

Duane Yoder, President, Garrett County Community Actions Committee, Inc. presented the Board of County Commissioners with an update of the Emergency Rental Assistant Program.

- No waitlist for rental assistance in Garrett County
- Funding available through September 2022 (\$900,000)
- Through May 2021 has provided \$205,000 in rental assistance impacting over 80 tenants

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC MEETING AND OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

On a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Meeting was closed, and the Public Hearing opened at 4:25 p.m.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Maryland Department of Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

The Maryland CDBG Program is a federally sponsored program designed to assist units of general local government with activities directed toward neighborhood and housing revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services.

Two (2) applicants are currently under consideration for Maryland CDBG Program funded projects with the timeframe of September 13 – 17, 2021 to be made available for public review. The following projects will be ranked and submitted for consideration of funding.

- Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc. – Senior Assistance - Home Modification Projects
- Oakland Trout Run Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant – Conveyance Phase - Engineering

The Board of County Commissioners conducted the Public Hearing on this date to obtain the views of citizens on projects considered for submission of an application to the Maryland CDBG and to provide input on other needs to be considered.

Comments will be accepted through September 24, 2021 at [comments@garrettcountry.org](mailto:comments@garrettcountry.org) .

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

On a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Hinebaugh, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, the Public Hearing was closed, and the Public Meeting opened at 4:35 p.m.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** None

8. The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Hinebaugh, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 4:36 P.M.

**Attest:**

**By Order of the Board,**

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**KEVIN G. NULL**  
County Administrator

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