

# BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Tuesday March 19, 2024

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

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Paul C. Edwards  
Commissioner Ryan S. Savage  
Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell  
  
County Administrator Kevin G. Null

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

1. **Board Appointments:** Adult Public Guardianship Review Board – Three (3) Year Terms

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, appointed/reappointed the following individuals:

Appointed by the County Commissioners with the recommendation of the Garrett County Department of Social Services	
Dabney, Thomas	Attorney Representative
Foley, Matthew	Lighthouse – Non-Profit Social Services Organization
Fost, Donna	Citizen Representative
Hensley, Joni	Area on Aging Representative
Miller, Reanna	Professional – Field of Disabilities Representative
Rock, Kelly	Psychiatrist Representative
Savage, Jessica	Social Services Representative
Schwalm, M.D., Karl	Physician Representative

2. **Real Property Exemption – Catholic Charities Senior Communities – Backbone Housing, Inc.**

Request for Fiscal Year 2025 County Property Tax Abatement granted under the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 7-502.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, approved a real property exemption for Fiscal Year 2025 for the Catholic Charities Senior Communities – Backbone Housing, Inc.

3. **Declaration of Surplus County Property** – In accordance with Section 8-105 - Declaration of Surplus Property of the Garrett County Purchasing Policy, the Board of County Commissioners must declare items as surplus prior to the disposition/sale.

- 2008 Dodge Nitro SXT VIN #1D8GU28K88W272746
- 1993 John Deere 644G Loader VIN#DW644GB543166
- 1997 Roscoe Broom VIN #35080
- 2002 John Deere 6220 Tractor VIN #L06220P327727
- 2000 John Deere 310 SE Backhoe VIN #T0310SWE881054
- 2005 John Deere 6220 Tractor VIN #L06220H427786
- 2000 John Deere 310SE Backhoe VIN #T0310SE881040
- 2000 John Deere 310SE Backhoe VIN#T0310SF881083

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell which was seconded by Commissioner Savage and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, declared the above list of equipment surplus.

4. **Health Care Coalition-Update Memorandum of Understanding** – The Health Care Coalition, County Government, Board of Education and Garrett College agreed to modify the exiting Memorandum of Understanding to bring more clarity to the distribution formula of reserves over an optimum level.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell which was seconded by Commissioner Savage and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the revised Memorandum of Understanding.

5. **Garrett County 2024 Transportation Priority Letter** – Siera Wigfield, Senior Planner, Garrett County Department of Planning & Community Development – Planning Division, presented the proposed transportation priorities for the County to submit to the Maryland Department of Transportation. The letter is attached.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Transportation Priority Letter for submission to the Maryland Department of Transportation.

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

#### **PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation by Commissioner Tichnell**

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Mr. Null indicated there was one addition to the Public Meeting Agenda, the discussion and approval of the Health Care Coalition Memorandum of Understanding. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the revised Public Meeting Agenda for March 19, 2024.
2. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2024.
3. **RECOGNITION:** The Alley - 10th Anniversary.  
The Board of County Commissioners recognized The Alley on its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Chairman Edwards noted that Tiffany Rains, business owner, actively supports the community and the school system.
4. **Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc. – Garrett Transit – Maryland Annual Transportation Plan Fiscal Year 2025 Grant Application**

Michael Hill, Manager of Garrett Transit, provided an update on Garrett Transit Services and its FY 2025 Annual Transportation Plan Grant Request. Update is attached.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** None.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

- ❖ Mr. Null announced board vacancies: 1 Vacancy – Garrett County Civil Service Board (three-year term) and 1 Vacancy – Garrett County Ethic Commission (five-year term). Letters of interest may be directed to the County Administrator, Kevin Null.
- ❖ Chairman Edwards announced that the FY 2025 Budget Presentation will begin at the next meeting, April 1, 2024. Outside agencies will present their budget immediately after the Public Meetings.

Schedule:

April 1, 2024 - Sheriff's Department and States Attorney

April 16, 2024 - Garrett College, Health Department, and Board of Education

May 6, 2024 - Chamber of Commerce, Community Action Committee, and Ruth Enlow Library

May 21, 2024 - Public Hearing on Proposed Budget

June 3, 2024 - Adopt approved Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

- ❖ The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Monday, April 1, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Garrett County Courthouse beginning at 4:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 4:26 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

**Garrett Transit Service Update**

- 32 employees (23 drivers, 7 office staff, 2 mechanics)
- 25 total vehicles (including 14 transit buses, 2 minivans, 1 maintenance truck)
- **FY23** – 456,876 total miles/84,923 total riders

- **FY25 Annual Transportation Plan (ATP) Grant Requests:**

**\$1,096,400** in operating funds (5311 and SSTAP programs) and **\$599,672** in capital funds (3 vans, 1 12-passenger bus, and Preventive Maintenance funds)