



Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland

Open Session Minutes

February 15, 2022

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by the full assemblage.

CALL TO ORDER

President Jeffrey A. Cline called the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, to order at 10:01 a.m. at 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland, with the following members present: Vice-President Terry L. Baker; Commissioner Wayne K. Keefer; Commissioner Randall E. Wagner; and Commissioner Charles A. Burkett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to approve the minutes of February 8, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

The Commissioners provided a brief overview of events attended throughout Washington County.

Vice-President Baker congratulated the Smithsburg Community Volunteer Fire Department volunteers and thanked all for their service, adding that the recently held Awards Banquet was well attended, and well deserved. Additionally, he offered his condolences to the family of Ted Hovermale, former Councilmember, Town of Clear Spring.

Commissioner Keefer requested a follow-up regarding the County's social media and citizen participation or dialogue; he added that citizen participation should not be muted on County posts. John Martirano shared that the social media policy is currently under review; he will provide an update at a future meeting.

Commissioner Burkett echoed Commissioner Keefer's comments regarding the Social Media platform. He congratulated the Korean War Veteran's Committee on the recent award of \$10,000 for the museum at Fort Ritchie. Additionally, he requested a "day of learning" with the Board of Education on the Kirwan changes and how that would directly affect future budget consideration. He also reminded staff to continue to seek savings within the County budget. Commissioner Burkett also thanked those volunteers at the Smithsburg Volunteer Fire Department.

Commissioner Wagner also thanked those at the Smithsburg Fire Department.

President Cline also congratulated those volunteers at the Smithsburg Fire Department and noted the 90th year anniversary. He recognized Mr. Ron Twentey and thanked him for his services with the Korean War Veteran's Committee; he further noted on the loss of Councilmember Hovermale, sharing his condolences to the family and the Town of Clear Spring.

STAFF COMMENTS

Emergency Communications

Brian Albert, Assistant Director, advised the Board that on October 8, 2019, a request was approved to accept awarded grant funding from the Local Numbers Board in the amount of \$2,500,048 for an update to the 911 phone system. On July 14, 2020, a request to approve funding in the amount of \$2.1 million was approved from that grant. With this request, Mr. Albert is requesting authorization to spend the remaining funds.

Commissioner Keefer, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to approve the spending of the remaining funds from the grant received from the Local Numbers Board. The motion passed unanimously.

County Clerk – Boards and Commissions

Hagerstown Regional Airport Advisory Commission

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to approve the recommendation to appoint Laurence Gross to serve a first three-year term from February 1, 2022 through January 31, 2025; this is not a paid board. The motion passed unanimously.

Washington County Mental Health Authority

Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the recommendation to appoint Melinda Morgan to serve a first three-year term from March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2025; this is not a paid board. The motion passed unanimously.

Animal Control Authority of Washington County

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to approve the recommendation to reappoint Daniel Mackley to serve a second three-year term from March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2025 as a Member at Large; this is not a paid board. The motion passed unanimously.

County Administrator

John Martirano shared that with the decline in COVID rates, County meeting operations will return to normal with no restrictions beginning with the next meeting. Additionally, he shared that effective February 22, 2022, Governor Hogan has lifted the mask mandate in all State buildings; he continues to encourage staff to be cautious.

Mr. Martirano added that there are currently no citizens “blocked” from the County’s social media page, adding that he will continue to review.

Mr. Martirano advised that the agenda item of IT Reorganization will be removed.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF WASHINGTON COUNTY BUILDING PROJECT

Addi Nardi, Executive Director, Boys and Girls Club, presented the Commissioners with information on an upcoming replacement of its main clubhouse at 805 Pennsylvania Avenue.

The Commissioners discussed the upcoming project and thanked Ms. Nardi for the update. Commissioner Burkett recommended that the Commissioners consider partnering with the City of Hagerstown to provide the remaining funding needed.

UTILITY BUDGET TRANSFER

Mark Bradshaw, Director, Environmental Management, requested approval to transfer funds from Contingency Utility Admin (ADM003) to the Pump Station Upgrades Various Location (LIN034) in the amount of \$47,000.

Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$47,000, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION TO DECLINE ACQUISITION OF STATE SURPLUS PROPERTY ON VIRGINIA AVENUE

Todd Moser, Real Property Administrator, recommended approval to decline State surplus property within the City of Hagerstown, Virginia Avenue.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to decline the acquisition of State surplus as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

CONTRACT RENEWAL (PUR1403) LANDFILL INSPECTION SERVICES

Brandi Naugle, Buyer, Purchasing, recommended renewal of the contract with BAI Group, LLC, of State College, Pennsylvania (PUR1403) Landfill Inspection Services for a one-year period commencing March 13, 2022 on the same terms and conditions as the current contract, with the exception of a rate increase of 2.4% for construction inspection and engineering services based on BAI's letter of request dated January 17, 2022; this is the third year of the requirements contract.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to renew contract PUR1403 with BAI Group, LLC, as requested in its letter dated January 17, 2022, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

REJECTION OF BID (PUR1453) UNIFORM FOR JUDICIAL AND PATROL DEPUTIES

Ms. Naugle and Sheriff Mullendore recommended approval to request the bid renewal for the contract PUR1453 Uniform for Judicial and Patrol Deputies with Howard Uniform Company, Baltimore, MD based on its letter dated February 2, 2022 requesting an increase rate of 7.75% be denied to due to the increase being considered excessive; and to extend the contract with Howard Uniform for an additional ninety (90) days under same terms, conditions and pricing to readvertise to solicit new pricing.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to approve rejection of the bid renewal for PUR1453 and to rebid the project, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT (PUR1535) LAERDAL – SIM CAPTURE SYSTEM

Ms. Naugle, and Kevin Lewis, Director, Training, Division of Emergency Services, recommended award of a sole source procurement to Laerdal Medical Corporation, Wappingers Falls, New York, for the procurement of a Sim Capture System to integrate with the existing Laerdal Medical equipment in the amount of \$27,358.50 for the first year of service; and \$24,152 for years two (2) through (5); contingent upon the approval of the agreement by the County Attorney, as per Section 1-106.2(a)(1) and (2) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Washington County, Maryland. Funds are budgeted in Division of Emergency Services Capital Improvement CIP account 60060030.11430.VEH009.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the award of PUR1535 to Laerdal Medical Corporation, in the total amount of \$51,527.32, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT (PUR1532) BODY WORN CAMERAS

Rick Curry, Director, Purchasing, and Major Pete Lazich, Sheriff's Office, recommended award of a sole source procurement to Axon Enterprise, Inc., Scottsdale, Arizona, for the procurement of a Axon Management System subscription, including thirty-three (33) additional body worn cameras, licensing, and evidence storage at contracted prices totaling \$58,956 for a one (1) year period based on contract pricing and to utilize a contract that was awarded by the State of Maryland DoIT (solicitation #060B249002); funds are budgeted in the departments account 515180.10.11310.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the award of PUR1532 to Axon Enterprise, Inc., in the total amount of \$58,956, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

REQUIRED UPGARDE TO 911 PHONE SYSTEM – REQUEST TO APPLY FOR FUNDS AND ACCEPTED AS AWARDED

Susan Buchanan, Director, Office of Grant Management, and Brian Albert, Assistant Director, Emergency Communications, recommended approval to submit an application to the Maryland 911 Board in the amount o \$35,825.90, and to accept funding as awarded for a required upgrade to the current 911 phone system.

Commissioner Burkett, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the request as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY REQUEST FOR FUNDING TO REPLACE FIELD SERVICE VAN

Colin Berry, Humane Society, Washington County; and Crystal Mowery, Field Service Director, recommended approval for funding in the amount of \$60,000 to replace Field Services Van #14; utilizing the Washington County contract.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to approve the purchase of a vehicle in the amount of \$60,000, with a source as determined by staff, as presented. The motion was amended by Commissioner Keefer recommended the motion be changed to a higher amount; Commissioner Wagner amended the motion to “up to” \$70,000. The motion passed unanimously.

CHANGE TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE – CAT HOLDS

Ms. Berry and Ms. Mowery recommended a change to the current Animal Control Ordinance, which would change the five (5) day hold to a three (3) day hold for felines, which is proven to be detrimental to the overall health and live release rate of the felines.

Kirk Downey, County Attorney, shared that should the Commissioner's wish to consider the request, the matter would need to be presented as an amendment to the Animal Control Ordinance and a public hearing would need to be scheduled.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to proceed with a public hearing on the matter.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RECLASSIFICATION AND REORGANIZATION OF DUTIES

This matter was removed from the Agenda per the County Administrator.

Vice-President Baker advised the Board that he will not be present for the duration of the Closed Session Meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to convene in closed session at 11:06 a.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals, in accordance with Section 3-305(b) (1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The motion passed 4-0, Vice-President Baker was absent.

In closed session, the Commissioners discussed personnel assignments and appointment to boards and commissions.

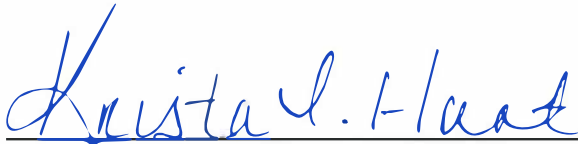
Present during closed session were Commissioners Jeffrey A. Cline, Wayne K. Keefer, Randall E. Wagner, and Charles A. Burkett (Commissioner Terry Baker was absent); also, present were John M. Martirano, County Administrator; Kirk C. Downey, County Attorney, and Krista L. Hart, County Clerk. Additionally, the following staff members were present at times: Deb Condo, Interim Director, Human Resources; and Machel Dwyer, Recruiter, Human Resources.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Burkett, moved to reconvene in open session at 11:57 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to adjourn the meeting 11:57 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Krista L. Hart, *County Clerk*

