



Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland

Open Session Minutes

May 24, 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 10:02 a.m. at 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland, with the following members present: Vice President Terry L. Baker; Commissioner Wayne K. Keefer; and Commissioner Randall E. Wagner; Commissioner Charles A. Burkett was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the minutes of May 17, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

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

Vice President Baker thanked all those who attended the Budget Hearing on May 17th. Additionally, he thanked staff for a successful MML Meeting.

Commissioner Keefer congratulated all those who participated in the John Frye Preservation Awards. Additionally, he recognized May as Older American's Month and thanked the Commission on Aging. He further thanked County staff for hosting the MML, he recognized the late Paul Hose and Theodore Hovermale.

Commissioner Wagner congratulated those honored at the John Frye Preservation Awards, echoing Commissioner Keefer's comments.

President Cline thanked staff for the Budget Hearing. He remembered Mayor Hose and Councilman Hovermale and thanked staff for the plaques.

STAFF COMMENTS

County Administrator

John Martirano thanked staff for participation in the Budget Hearing and for a successful MML event. He added that Commissioner Burkett was absent and read a quote from Commissioner Burkett sharing his support for the upcoming budget.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Dave Williams, Hagerstown, shared his support for fully funding the Board of Education's budget.

Stephanie Philips, Falling Waters, WV, discussed various matters in Washington County.

APPROVAL OF MODIFIED CHARGES, RENTALS, AND FEES AT THE HAGERSTOWN REGIONAL AIRPORT

Kelcee Mace, Interim CFO, presented the proposed rates and charges for the Hagerstown Regional Airport, Fiscal Year 2023, as discussed at the Public Hearing held April 26, 2022; and recommended adoption of said modifications by Resolution.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve by Resolution, the modified charges, rentals, and fees at the Hagerstown Regional Airport, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-19 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

APPROVAL OF MODIFIED LANDFILL USER FEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

David Mason, Deputy Director, Solid Waste, and Ms. Mace presented the proposed rates and certain modified fees for the Washington County Landfill, as discussed at the Public Hearing held April 26, 2022; and recommended adoption of said modifications by Resolution.

Commissioner Keefer, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve by Resolution, the modified rates for the Washington County Landfill, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-20 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

APPROVAL OF WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

Mark Bradshaw, Director, Environmental Management, and Ms. Mace presented the proposed rate schedule for the water and sewer for FY23, as discussed at the Public Hearing held April 26, 2022; and recommended adoption of said modifications by Resolution. Mr. Bradshaw shared the proposal included an increase to certain lab fees only.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve by Resolution, the modified lab fees for the Division of Environmental Management, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-21 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

COUNTY INCOME TAX RATE

Kirk Downey, County Attorney, recommended adoption of a resolution establishing the County's income tax rate at 2.95%, effective January 1, 2023.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve by Resolution, the establishment of the County's income tax rate of 2.95%, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-22 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

COUNTY REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RATES

Mr. Downey recommended adoption of a resolution establishing the County's real and personal property tax rates, effective July 1, 2022. Mr. Downey shared that (1) sets the county real property tax rate at \$0.928 per \$100 of assessment; (2) sets the real property tax rate for those properties located in municipalities within the County's corporate boundary at \$0.803 per \$100 of assessment; and (3) sets the tax rate for personal property and operating real property described in MD. Code, Tax-Property, § 8 109© for Washington County, Maryland, at 2.5 times the rate for real property.

Commissioner Keefer, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve by Resolution, the establishment of the County's real and personal property tax rates, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-23 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

APPROVAL OF FY2023 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS

Ms. Mace requested adoption of the FY2023 Capital, and Operating Budgets as presented at the public hearing held May 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the FY2023 Operating and Capital Budgets, as presented. The motion passed unanimously. (Commissioner Burkett shared his support of the FY23 budget through a verbal comment through Mr. Martirano).

FY23 HEALTHY FAMILIES HOME VISITING GRANT – APPROVAL TO SUBMIT APPLICATION

Rachel Saunders, Senior Grant Manager, Office of Grant Management, recommended approval to submit a grant application to the Maryland Department of Education in the amount of \$277,993 and to accept funding as awarded. The Washington County Health Department is the vendor contracted to provide the services; funding of \$6,606 is included in the award for County administrative support and no County funds are involved.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the submission of the grant application and to accept the total award funding of \$277,993 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners recessed at 10:24 a.m. and returned to the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST PURCHASE OF SAVE HISTORIC ANTIETAM FOUNDATION PROPERTY IN SHARPSBURG, WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY HOLDING LAND PRESERVATION EASEMENT AND SUBMISSION OF AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

Chris Boggs, Rural Preservation Administrator, Planning and Zoning, and Ms. Souders, recommended approval to act as the government sponsor for a grant application, in the amount of \$122,856.19 to the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABT) and to hold a conservation easement over the Save Historic Antietam Foundation Tracts (SHAF), located in the core area of the Antietam Battlefield. A 50% match is required which would consist of \$35,000 from ABT and \$87,856.19 from SHAF; Washington County is not expected to contribute funds to this project.

Commissioner Keefer, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the request to submit a grant application in the amount of \$122,856.19 to the ABT, to accept funding as awarded, and to act as government sponsor, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

DAY REPORTING CENTER GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OPIOID OPERATIONAL COMMAND CENTER – APPROVAL TO SUBMIT APPLICATION AND ACCEPT FUNDING AS AWARD

Ms. Souders and Meaghan Willis, Program Director, Day Reporting Center, recommended approval to submit an application in the amount of \$107,261 to the Opioid Operational Command Center and to accept funding as awarded. The Office of Grant Management has reviewed the grant application. This grant has a one-year performance period, to begin July 1, 2022 and end on June 30, 2023.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the grant application in the amount of \$107,261, and to accept funding as awarded. The motion passed unanimously.

**DIVISION OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
CENTER YEAR TO DATE UPDATE FOR 2022**

Susan Grimes, Director, Business Development, and Herb Melrath, Maryland SBDC, Washington County Office, presented the Commissioners an update on the ongoing growth and successes in the Small Business sector of Washington County.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to convene in closed session at 10:50 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 unanimously.

In closed session, the Commissioners discussed the compensation and filling of certain personnel vacancies with specific candidates; and to discuss certain business development updates.

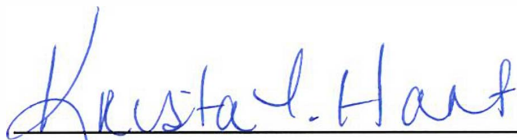
Present during closed session were Commissioners Jeffrey A. Cline; Terry L. Baker; Wayne K. Keefer; and Randall E. Wagner; Charles A. Burkett was absent; also, present were John M. Martirano, County Administrator; Kirk C. Downey, County Attorney, and Krista L. Hart, County Clerk. Additionally, the following staff member was present at various times: Deb Condo, Interim Director, Human Resources; Mark Bradshaw, Director, Environmental Management; and Alex Reed, Watershed Specialist.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to reconvene in open session at 11:33 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to adjourn the meeting 11:33 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Krista L. Hart, *County Clerk*