



Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland

Open Session Minutes

August 9, 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 10:08 a.m. at 100 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland, with the following members present: Commissioner Terry L. Baker; Commissioner Wayne K. Keefer; and Commissioner Randall E. Wagner. (Commissioner Charles A. Burkett was absent).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to approve the minutes of July 26, 2022. The motion passed 3-0-1, Commissioner Keefer abstained due to an absence).

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

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

Vice President Baker would like to know what constitutes a minor decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals. Additionally, how much land is left in Washington County for future warehouses.

Commissioner Keefer apologized for his recent absence on July 26th. Additionally, he thanked the election workers and poll workers; he also thanked the police officers in Washington County and local communities for National Night Out. He also asked the Board to consider allowing the Museum of Fine Arts to host a future meeting. He reminded all to be aware of the dangers surrounding the heavy heat and asked that we all check in on our senior neighbors.

Commissioner Wagner congratulated Recruit Class #3, Emergency Services; additionally, he congratulated Eagle Scouts of Troop 51. He thanked all involved in the 2nd Annual Disability Swim Clinic at Marty Snook.

President Cline reminded all to join the events at the Clear Spring Carnival, supporting the local volunteer fire company. Additionally, he echoed Commissioner Wagner's comments. He congratulated all recognized at the Cumberland Valley Firemen's Association conference.

STAFF COMMENTS

Purchasing and Sheriff's Office

Rick Curry, Director, Purchasing, Pete Lazich and Alan Matheny, Sheriff's Office, discussed the difficulties surrounding the current procedure on the purchase of Sheriff's vehicles. Mr. Matheny requested a not-to-exceed amount of \$700,000 be allocated to the purchase of vehicles to allow a proactive approach.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve an amount for fourteen (14) vehicles of \$700,000 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

County Attorney

Kirk Downey, County Attorney, recommended approval to adopt an Ordinance approving an application for a zoning reclassification and zoning map amendment for RZ-22-002.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to approve the adoption of an Ordinance, as presented.

County Administrator

John Martirano thanked those involved in National Night Out. Additionally, he mentioned that next week is the Maryland Association of Counties and September 13th is Remembrance in the Park and the Public Safety Training Center Open House is September 20th.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Dave Williams, Smithsburg, Maryland, expressed concern over the vacancies on the Ethics Commission.

UPDATE ON THE ACTIONS COMPLETED BY THE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Matt Breeding, Chair, Veteran's Advisory Committee (committee), presented the Commissioners with an overview of the activities of the committee.

KELBAUGH RURAL LEGACY PROGRAM EASEMENT

Jill Baker, Director, Planning and Zoning, recommended approval of the Frank L. Kelbaugh Jr. Rural Legacy Program (RLP) project, paid for 100% by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, for \$30,443.30 for 13.26 easement acres, to adopt an ordinance approving the purchase, and to authorize execution of the necessary documentation to finalize the easement purchase. Mr. Boggs shared that the property is located at 2224 Rohrersville Road, Knoxville, Maryland, and is primarily wooded but does have significant agricultural land. Mr. Boggs shared that three (3) development rights will be extinguished with the easement.

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the Kelbaugh RLP Easement, and to adopt an ordinance approving the purchase of the easement and to authorize the execution of the necessary documentation to finalize the easement purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

(Ordinance No. ORD-2022-14 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the originals are in the County Commissioners' Office.)

RURAL MARYLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANT PROJECTS REVIEW AND RANKING

Susan Buchanan, Director, Office of Grant Management, recommended approval of the Rural Maryland Economic Development Fund project rankings as prioritized by the Board of County Commissioners and to forward the ranking to the Tri-County Council of Western Maryland for funding consideration. Further, Ms. Buchanan requested approval to allow applicants to proceed with application submission to the Maryland Department of Commerce for those projects that receive funding recommendation from Tri-County Council and accept grant funding for County projects approved and provided by the Department of Commerce. The Office of Grant Management has received a total of thirty-one (31) funding requests from eligible local organizations requesting \$19,641,083.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Keefer, moved to approve the project rankings, to allow applicants to begin the application process, and to accept grant funding for County projects, as requested. The motion passed unanimously.

WASHINGTON COUNTY GAMING COMMISSION'S ANNUAL REPORT AND FISCAL YEAR 2022 GAMING FUND ALLOCATION AGREEMENT

Ms. Buchanan and Kay Hoffman, Chair, Washington County Gaming Commission, brought forth information pertaining to the Washington County Gaming Commissions Annual report and FY22 funding decisions. Ms. Buchanan shared the Gaming Commission Awards Over totaling \$2,062,148.54 for distribution to local charitable organizations and the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Associations.

President Jeff Cline left the meeting at 10:50 a.m. and returned at 10:51 a.m.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PURCHASE (INGT-22-0093): (8) JOHN DEERE ZERO TURN MOWERS

Mr. Curry and Danny Hixon, Deputy Director, Building, Grounds and Parks, recommended authorizing by resolution, the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase (INGT-22-0093) with John Deere, Cary, North Carolina, awarded by Baltimore County Public Schools (Contract LKO-402-20-001) for the purchase of eight (8) John Deere Z950M ZTrak Mowers for a total of \$79,564.16. Mr. Curry shared that funds are budgeted in the departments account 600400.10.11910.

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to authorize by resolution the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase relating to the purchase of (8) John Deere Zero Turn Mowers in the total amount of \$79,564.16, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-27 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PURCHASE (INGT-22-0096): VIRTUAL REALITY INTERACTIVE LEARNING SYSTEM

Mr. Curry and Kevin Lewis, Deputy Director, Emergency Services, recommended authorizing by resolution, the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase (INGT-22-0096) with Echo Healthcare, Inc. Sarasota, Florida, awarded by Calhoun Community College (Contract CCC-21-35) for the purchase of a Virtual Reality Interactive Learning System for a total of \$227,810. Mr. Curry shared that funds are budgeted in the departments account 600300.30.10500 (EQPT).

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to authorize by resolution the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase relating to the purchase of a Virtual Reality Interactive Learning System in the total amount of \$227,810, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution No. RS-2022-28 is recorded among the Acts, Ordinances, and Resolutions of Washington County and the original is located in the County Commissioners' Office.)

John Martirano, County Administrator, and President Cline welcomed Dr. David Sovine, Superintendent of the Washington County Public Schools.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to convene in closed session at 10:56 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; to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and to discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the development of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans; in accordance with Sections 3-305(b) (1) (7), and (10) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The motion passed unanimously (Commissioner Charles A. Burkett was absent).

In closed session, the Commissioners discussed the compensation of specific County personnel and employment, recruitment, and assignment of County personnel and the potential filling of certain personnel vacancies; and Board/Commission appointments. The Commissioners discussed a personnel matter concerning an individual employee, as well as employee assignments. Additionally, the Commissioners consulted with counsel to obtain legal advice regarding a proposed contractual agreement concerning the provision of fire and police services and a certain proposal regarding the development of fire services.

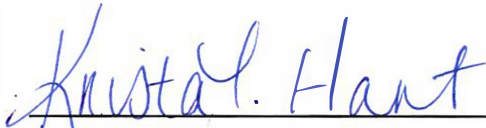
Present during closed session were Commissioners Jeffrey A. Cline; Terry L. Baker; Wayne K. Keefer; and Randall E. Wagner; also, present were John M. Martirano, County Administrator; Kirk C. Downey, County Attorney, and Krista L. Hart, County Clerk; and at various times, David Hays, Director, Emergency Services, Mark Bradshaw, Director, Environmental Management; Kevin Cerrone, Director, Transit; Davina Yutzy, Deputy Director, Environmental Management, Andrew Eshleman, Director, Public Works, and Deb Condo, Interim Director, Human Resources.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Commissioner Baker, seconded by Commissioner Wagner, moved to reconvene in open session at 1:12 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wagner, seconded by Commissioner Baker, moved to adjourn the meeting 1:12 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Krista L. Hart, *County Clerk*