

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
May 21, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; members of the press; and members of the public.

**OPEN SESSION – Elk Room**

**9:00 A.M.** –Council President Meffley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

**NOTE:** Audio and video recording with transcription of this meeting are available on the County website [www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org).

**CLOSED SESSION**

**May 14, 2019**

**10:07 a.m.**

Council President Meffley asked for a motion to go into closed session, which was made by Councilman Coutz, and seconded by Vice President Gregory.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.

The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

The council is going into closed session as authorized by the General Provisions Article, Section 3-305 (b)(1) of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Present: Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, George Patchell and Jackie Gregory; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant.

Guest: John Downs, Victor Jackson

The Council discussed the role of Council Attorney with Mr. Downs. There was no action taken.

A motion was made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory to conclude the closed session.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.

The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

The closed session was concluded and the open session was reconvened at 10:41 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of May 14, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council closed session of May 14, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously

**Union Hospital and Upper Bay Counseling and Support Service Partnership**

Dr. Richard Szumel, CEO of Union Hospital introduced SuAnne Blumberg, CEO of Upper Bay Counseling and Support Services, Inc.; Zack Royston, Senior Vice President of Provider Enterprises, Union Hospital; Dr. Lanre Akinkunmi, Medical Director, Union Multi-Specialty Practices; and Lisa Fields, Director, Union Multi Specialty Practices.

Ms. Blumberg explained that her organization had been supplying a therapist at Union Hospital to assist their patients with mental health issues. She said that Union Hospital and Upper Bay applied for a grant to the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission in support of the integration of services. The partnership allows mental health professionals to have access to medical records. She stated that integrated health services is a trend and that Cecil County is at the cutting edge of this program. Mr. Royston stated that many Cecil County patients have limited access to transportation and food. He stated that combining medical and behavior treatment is a holistic approach for patients. Ms. Fields stated that integration of social worker have been well received by patients.

Dr. Akinkunmi stated that collaboration of services benefits the patient and stated that society still sees psychiatric treatment as a stigma. As a physician, he is able to take the patient to a behavior specialist and avoid the stigma.

Dr. Szumel stated that Cecil County is a rural community like other communities and lack providers. He hopes to expand this program. He stated that there are four billing codes that have been accepted for payment by insurance carriers. He hopes to see this program expanded as more insurance carriers accept billing for integrated behavior health treatment.

Council questions and comments ensued.

### **Review of Legislative Agenda**

A public hearing on Bill No. 2019-07 Trust Fund- Volunteer Length of Service Program- VLOSAP, will be held at tonight's legislative session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments on this legislation. James Massey, Council Manager, reviewed five draft amendments suggested by the Council. There were no Council questions or comments.

A public hearing on Resolution No. 29-2019 Amendment- Purchasing Manual, will be held at tonight's legislative session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments on this legislation. James Massey, Council Manager, reviewed seven draft amendments suggested by the Council. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 32-2019 Budget Appropriation and Budget Transfer- Fund Balance-Volunteer Length of Service Award Program, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. Al Wein, Director of Administration, provided comments. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 33-2019 Approval- Internet Service-Windstream-Multiple Year Contract, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Resolution No. 34-2019 Amendment- Personnel Procedures and Policies, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no comments from the administration. There were no Council questions or comments.

Under new business, Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #62, in the amount of \$113,489 for April 2019, will be considered for approval at tonight's session. There were no Council questions or comments.

### **Council Manager Report**

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events.

### **Council Member Items**

Councilman Patchell will reserve his comments until tonight's session.

Councilman Miller commented on the spotted lanternfly.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending and commented that it was not raining today. He attended the County Employee Recognition luncheon and thanked county employees for their good work. He attended the reopening of Walmart Supercenter and commented on the extensive renovation of the store. He attended the adult drug court graduation and commented on hearing a graduate state that the program changed his life.

Vice President Gregory attended the Tourism Partnership Appreciation Breakfast and commented on the local businesses that support our community. She attended the executive board meeting of Upper Shore Regional Council and commended Susan O'Neill for her leadership. She attended the Armed Forces Day Challenge Golf Tournament in North East and graduation ceremony at Cecil College.

Council President Meffley attended the Upper Shore Regional Council executive board meeting and commented on additional grant funds available for the expansion of broadband service in Cecil County. He also stated that the USRC will be supporting a program on lanternflies that will be held at Cecil College. He also commented on a possible grant to the School of Technology for students to attend vocational training competitions. He attended the Tourism Partnership Breakfast and commented on Mary Jo Jablonski's posthumous award for her work with tourism. He attended the Cecil College commencement and commented on the students' enthusiasm on graduating. He attended Foster Parents Appreciation Night and commented on the seventy families in Cecil County who participate.

**9:45 A.M.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

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The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 0. Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller and Councilman Patchell voted in favor of the motion. There was no opposition.

Council Manager Massey read into the record:

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The open session was reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

**Adjournment**

Councilman Miller moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Councilman Coutz, and approved by consensus. Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 10:47 am.

The next Council work session is scheduled on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 9am in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building.

Attest:

  
James Massey  
Council Manager

Approved:

  
Robert Meffley,  
Council President