

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
February 24, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: President Hodge, Vice President McCarthy, Joyce Bowsbey, Dan Schneckenburger, and George Patchell; Al Wein, Director of Administration; Jason Allison, County Attorney; Winston Robinson, Director of Finance; Craig Whiteford, Budget Manager; Scott Flanigan, Director of Public Works; 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.** – Vice President McCarthy called the meeting to order in the absence of the Council President who arrived at 9:02 a.m., at which time he assumed as presiding officer.

**NOTE:** Audio recording of this meeting is available on the County website [www.ccgov.org](http://www.ccgov.org).

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Councilman Schneckenburger, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of February 10, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation – Exelon - Anne Lindner**

Vice President McCarthy introduced Anne Lindner, Director of Governmental Affairs from Exelon, who he invited to the Council work session in order to provide an overview of the relicensing process for Conowingo Dam and the proposed study. At the request of the State of Maryland, Exelon will be funding a study to look at the sediment and nutrients over a two year period in order to determine the effects on the Chesapeake Bay. Questions and comments ensued.

**Presentation - Budget Amendment - Midyear Adjustment**

Winston Robinson, Director of Finance, and Craig Whiteford, Budget Manager, presented a revised resolution to authorize a budget amendment to adjust funding for utility costs, vehicle repair, storm costs, salaries, and lighting grant by utilizing the bond premium. This legislation will be introduced on March 3, 2015.

**Review - State legislation**

Council Manager Massey reviewed proposed state legislation for Council consideration of support or opposition. By consensus, the Council authorized letters of support for SB 21/HB 187 (Intergovernmental Cooperation), HB 869 (Grant to Cecil County Farm Museum), HB 981 (Cecil County Orphans' Court Sessions), HB 841 (Income tax refunds, warrant interceptor program), HB 638 (Oysters, shell seeding, replenishment and rotation); and SB 591 (Highway User Funds restoration). The Council also agreed to send a letter in opposition of SB 40.

### **Approval - Council Budget Hearing Schedule**

The Council requested that the schedule include a list of departments to be presenting. Council Manager Massey will prepare for the next work session.

### **Council Manager Report**

Council Manager Massey reminded Council Members of today's ribbon cutting at culverts in Starr Route and Conowingo Lake.; and the Hatem Bridge Toll Work Group, which will meet on Thursday, February 26 at 4pm. The Sassafras Watershed will make a presentation at the next Council work session.

### **Council Member Items**

Councilman Schneckenburger will be participating in a Maryland Rural County Coalition conference call regarding state legislation. He also commented that the school system reduced their operating cost by 13% while the county was increasing their operating costs by today's proposed budget amendment.

Councilwoman Bowsbey had no comments.

Councilman Patchell commented that he was looking forward to the proposed budget from the administration and hoped to see a reduction of expenses.

Vice President McCarthy attended the MACo Legislative Committee where they reviewed many state bills being proposed. He attended the Cecil County Fireman's Association banquet on Saturday where many awards were given. He also attended a meeting with the College and School boards where a presentation was given about the Baselle property. He requested that the Council request this presentation at a future work session.

President Hodge attended the Farm Bureau breakfast and commented on their concerns for state legislation that would not benefit agriculture. He stated that he hopes that the Governor will be initiating a phosphorus management plan that will be more favorable to agriculture.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

**10:45 A.M.**


On motion made by Councilwoman Bowsbey, seconded by Councilman Patchell, the Council moved to go into Closed Session at 10:45 a.m.

Council Manager Massey stated that pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code, State Government 10-508 (a) (8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending litigation; and (9) to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matter related to the negotiations. Council, Counsel and staff. Motion carried unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Council President adjourned the meeting at 11.38 a.m.

Approved:



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Robert J. Hodge, President  
County Council of Cecil County

Attest:



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James Massey  
Council Manager