

**Board of County Commissioners
Worksession Minutes
March 1, 2011**

PRESENT: Commissioners Mullin, Moore, Dunn, Broomell and Hodge; County Administrator Al Wein, Public Works Director Scott Flanigan and staff; Planning and Zoning Director Eric Sennstrom; Economic Development Director Vernon Thompson; Permits and Inspections Director Pat Conway; Human Resources Director Donna Nichols; Budget Manager Craig Whiteford; Executive Office Administrator Vicky Rinkerman; Council Norman Wilson; members of the press, and members of the public.

NOTE: Audio recording of this meeting is available on the County website www.ccgov.org.

OPEN SESSION

9:00 a.m. – President Mullin called the meeting to order.

LGIT Presentation for snow removal simulator training grant

County Administrator Wein introduced Tim Ailsworth, Executive Director Local Government Insurance Trust who presented the snow removal simulator training grant funds.

Osprey Property Company, LLC Presentation – County Administrator Wein introduced Brian Lopez and Andrew Hanson from the Osprey Property Company for the Riverwoods of Northeast project, 96-unit workforce housing project, 125 Railroad Avenue, North East. Mr. Lopez provided an overview of the project, application-screening process at the State level, and required local support and contribution for the project.

The Board concurred that they have a meeting scheduled with Director Mahaney and advised Mr. Lopez that County Administrator Wein would forward the decision of the Board.

Fire sprinkler ordinance update - Pat Conway, Director Department of Permits and Inspections reviewed the current updates to the proposed ordinance.

The Board concurred to move forward with the public hearing and set a proposed date for adoption of the ordinance at the scheduled monthly Commissioners meeting on April 19, 2011.

Department of Emergency Services 9-1-1 Center technology upgrade and grant approval informational briefing - Richard Brooks, Director Department of Emergency Services reviewed the 1.7 million grant approved for the technology upgrade to the 9-1-1 Center. He is seeking approval for sole source vendor procurement relative to the upgrade, which is an exception to the current purchasing policy.

Second Procurement/Grant for voice recording system – Director Brooks reviewed the grant and technology upgrade for a specific piece of equipment to record 9-1-1-calls for service. He is seeking approval for sole source vendor procurement relative to the upgrade, which is an exception to the current purchasing policy.

The Board concurred to authorize the Department of Emergency Services to proceed with sole source vendor procurement relative to the 9-1-1 technology and voice recording system upgrades.

Draft bid for replacement of Bridge No. CE-0011 on Calvert Road over North East Creek – Director Scott Flanigan reviewed the draft bid for the bridge project.

The Board concurred to authorize the Department of Public Works to proceed with advertising the bid as presented.

Evening meeting agenda review

County Administrator Wein and staff reviewed the agenda items for the evening meeting.

The Board concurred that they intend to table approval the meeting minutes until the next worksession meeting.

Legislative report - Commissioner Tari Moore updated the Board on pending legislation in Annapolis.

With respect of SB629, the Board concurred that they would not testify and preferred that MACo take the lead and express their position on the proposed legislation.

Commissioner Items

Commissioner Moore commented on meetings and events she attended during the week.

Commissioner Hodge commented on a building permit issue and the request the Board received relative to appointing an Airport Authority.

The Board concurred to authorize County Administrator Wein to forward a copy of the County Code relative to this issue to the Board and this will be discussed further after the Board has reviewed the information.

Commissioner Broomell commented on the proposed process for applying for funding from the gaming facility revenue, filing for a waiver for the maintenance of effort, and scheduling a public information meeting relative to Route 222 and I95 construction upgrades and traffic issues.

The Board concurred to wait for County budget information relative to public school funding before requesting a waiver for the maintenance of effort.

Commissioner Dunn commented on meetings and events he attended during the week.

President Mullin commented on meetings and events he attended during the week.

Request to Fill – The following County departments have submitted a request to fill budgeted positions:

Office Services Specialist in Circuit Court

Lieutenant in the Department of Emergency Services

Marketing Specialist in the Department of Economic Development

The Board concurred to authorize the Human Resources Department to proceed with advertising and filling all the positions as requested.

Penn National – Cecil County Local Impact Grant Multi-year Plan – Director Thompson reviewed the priority list relative to the County's multi-year plan. Staff is seeking approval of the proposed plan to submit to the Local Development Council.

The Board forwarded several revisions and requested a revised copy of the plan for their review.

ADJOURNMENT

10:35 a.m. On motion made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Broomell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the worksession meeting.

Disclosure: To listen to the detailed discussion, an audio recording of the worksession meeting is available on our website www.ccgov.org/commissioners/

OPEN SESSION

1:00 p.m. - Public Schools Update

PRESENT: Commissioners Broomell, Moore, Dunn and Hodge, County Administrator Wein, and Superintendent of Public Schools Dr. D'Ette Devine and members of the Board of Education leadership team.

Dr. Devine presented a power point presentation to the Board regarding demographic and program challenges within Cecil County public schools.

1:30 PM – Meeting with residents from Town of Rising Sun

PRESENT: Commissioners Broomell, Moore, Dunn and Hodge, County Administrator Wein, Public Works Director Scott Flanigan, Mr. Bob Fisher, Bruce Hemphill and concerned citizens from Rising Sun.

Mr. Bob Fisher, Bruce Hemphill and concerned citizens from the Town of Rising Sun presented a petition to the Board, which included a wastewater rate spreadsheet. The group proposed that the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun should investigate connecting Rising Sun's wastewater system to the County's North East River Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Board responded that they felt this was an issue for the Town officials, and that they would respond to any requests for information from the Mayor and Commissioners of Rising Sun with respect to this matter.

2:00 PM – Meeting with Town of Rising Sun Officials

PRESENT: Commissioners Broomell, Moore, Dunn and Hodge, County Administrator Wein, Public Works Director Scott Flanigan, Rising Sun Town Commissioners Mumey, Pierson and Callahan, and Town Administrator Calvin Bonenberger.

Rising Sun Commissioner Mumey presented a letter to the Board that explained their current situation with the Maryland Department of the Environment relative to their wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). He stated that they were under a consent decree and were on a fast track schedule to construct an upgrade to the WWTP. The Town has committed to a new plant and anticipates breaking ground in May, 2011. The letter that the Town submitted posed four specific questions to the County.

The Board concurred on the specific county responses to the four questions. The Board directed County Administrator Wein to respond to the Town's letter and to include within the letter any county regulatory requirements that will have to be met by the Town relating to this project.

2:45 PM – Meeting with Housing Director David Mahaney regarding housing matters

PRESENT: Commissioners Broomell, Moore, Dunn and Hodge, County Administrator Wein, and Housing Director Dave Mahaney.

Director Mahaney offered recommendations relating to the handling of three workforce housing projects that have requested letters of support and a waiver of building permit fees.

The Board directed Director Mahaney and County Administrator Wein to draft support letters in coordination with County Counsel Norman Wilson for presentation and discussion at the Board's next worksession.

3:30 PM – Meeting on County Multi-year VLT Plan

PRESENT: Commissioners Broomell, Moore, Dunn and Hodge, County Administrator Wein, and Economic Development Director Vernon Thompson.

Director Thompson and County Administrator Wein presented the draft local impact grant multi-year plan to the Board for final revision before the plan is submitted to the Local Development Council. Once the revisions are made, it will be presented to the Board and released to Chairman of Local Development Council for distribution to the County plan review subcommittee.

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