

**Board of County Commissioners  
Worksession Minutes  
August 14, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Mullin, Broomell, Dunn, and Hodge, County Administrator Wein, Public Works Director Scott Flanigan, Planning and Zoning Director Eric Sennstrom, Human Resources Director Donna Nichols, Executive Office Administrator Vicky Rinkerman, Administrative Assistant Robin McCann, County Attorney Norman Wilson, Treasurer Bill Feehley, members of the press, and members of the public.

**OPEN SESSION – Elk Room**

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

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

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion made by Commissioner Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Broomell, the Board moved to approve the August 7, 2012 Worksession Meeting minutes, as presented. Vote:

Mullin – Y, Broomell – Y, Dunn – Y, Moore – Abstained, Hodge – Abstained. Motion carried by a vote of 3 in favor with 2 abstentions.

**Request to Fill Positions**

Director Donna Nichols presented the following requests to fill positions:

Circuit Court budgeted Master's Office Assistant position due to a resignation.

On motion made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Dunn, the Board moved to approve and authorize the Human Resources Department to advertise and fill the position as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Senior Services budgeted Office Services Assistant position, part-time 30 hours a week due to a resignation.

On motion made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Hodge, the Board moved to approve and authorize the Human Resources Department to advertise and fill the position as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Maryland Horse Park Informational Briefing; Ross Peddicord, Executive Director, Maryland Horse Industry Board –**

Administrator Wein advised the Board that the briefing has been canceled and will be rescheduled at a later date.

**Southern States Informational Briefing–**

Southern States Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Director Jim Wright provided the Board an update

on the progress of the project, and discussed options for providing water to approximately fifteen properties on Wilson and Telegraph Roads.

Mr. Wright discussed the following:

- Exact location of the properties with contaminated wells;
- Well tests for the new homes for nitrates and contamination areas;
- MDE consent order with Southern States relative to the wells on the properties;
- Evaluating option to run water infrastructure from the Town of Rising Sun to the homes;
- Evaluating option to install and operate a community water system for the homes;
- MDE requirements relative to moving forward with a community water system; and
- Requirement for approval from the District Engineer

Director Sennstrom advised the Board that the Cecil County Code states that the District Engineer must approve the operation, which is the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Wright advised the Board that Southern States is in the process of evaluating the cost of the options to correct this issue and is seeking comments from the Board before moving forward with investigating the community water system option. There is a private and confidential agreement between Southern States and the homeowners.

Board members discussed the following:

- Consent order from MDE requires Southern States to remediate the ground water to acceptable levels of nitrates;
- Remediation requirement for the individual wells on the properties;
- Favorable response from officials with the Town of Rising Sun to supply water;
- Due diligence process to evaluate options to solve the issue; and
- Request for Southern States to provide the Board statements in support of the options from the other partners involved in the project

Director Flanigan advised the Board that the county has had to take over failing community systems, and staff would recommend the option for the Town of Rising Sun to supply the water.

Members of the Board provided their comments relative to the contamination of ground water and need to supply water to the homes with contaminated wells.

Several Board members commented that they had no objections to Southern State proceeding with investigating the community water system and requested that they keep the county updated on the project.

### **Closure of Water Fund and Transfer of Fund balance to wastewater fund**

Treasurer Feehley advised the Board that the sale of water assets has been completed with Artesian. He recommended that the fund balance from the sale be transferred to the Wastewater Enterprise fund.

Director Flanigan advised the Board that he concurs with the recommendation to transfer the fund balance to the Wastewater Enterprise fund.

Treasurer Feehley advised the Board that approximately seventy percent of the water customers received wastewater service also.

Administrator Wein advised the Board that the Resolution to close and transfer the funds to the Wastewater Enterprise fund would be on the August 21, 2012 Commissioners Meeting agenda for consideration.

### **Commissioner Items**

Commissioner Dunn invited the Board to attend the annual Home Town Heroes Recognition Event scheduled for Monday, August 20, 2012 at the North East Fire House that is hosted by the Cecil County Firemen's Association.

Vice President Broomell commented on the Home Town Heroes Recognition Event, and requested that the Board schedule a meeting to discuss priorities and proposed bridge projects. She advised the Board that she would like to discuss the Rolling Mill bridge project, Mill Lane bridge project and Old Elk Neck Road bridge project.

Board members discussed the following:

- Town of North East meeting relative to discussion on the Rolling Mill bridge project; and
- Concerns relative to the process for determining the priority list for CIP road and bridge projects

Administrator Wein advised the Board that the CIP budget and operating budget discussion and process will be accelerated due to Charter regulations. The County Executive must submit a budget to the Council by March 1, 2013.

Members of the Board provided their comments relative to the criteria used to determine the bridge and road project priority list.

President Mullin requested Director Flanigan and staff provide the Board an update on road and bridge projects.

Director Flanigan advised the Board that the contract award for the removal of the Mill Lane bridge and site remediation project will be on the August 21, 2012 Commissioners meeting agenda for consideration.

Discussion ensued regarding potential grants through the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy for site remediation relative to the Mill Lane bridge project.

The majority of Board members agreed to request Director Flanigan to review and update the Board on the Rolling Mill, Old Elk Neck, and Mill Lane bridge projects.

Commissioner Moore requested an update on the animal control contract and interim plan.

Administrator Wein advised the Board that the request for proposals are due September 14, 2012. The county will be handling animal control services during the interim and officials are in the process of confirming vendors to provide the needed services.

Commissioner Moore commented on the Tier 4 map locations and the need to inform property owners who will be affected by the regulations.

Commissioner Hodge commented on the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy remediation funds, providing a statement for emergency services needed in communities, and Board members visiting the Mill Lane project site before the discussion with Director Flanigan. He advised the Board that Mr. Bomba has acquired a letter of support from the Town of North East and has requested a letter of support from the Board to locate video slots in the off track betting facility in North East.

Commissioner Mullin commented on the Colora Medic Station ribbon cutting event.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

**9:50 AM**

**On motion made by Commissioner Dunn, seconded by Commissioner Hodge, the Board moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Maryland Annotated Code State Government 10-508 (a) (1) to review and discuss applications for appointments to Planning Commission, Local Development Council and Board of Parks and Recreation. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **ADJOURNMENT CLOSED SESSION**

**10:26 AM**

**On motion made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Commissioner Dunn, the Board moved to adjourn the closed session meeting. The meeting was adjourned.**

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