

**Board of County Commissioners
Worksession Minutes
July 3, 2012**

PRESENT: Commissioners Mullin, Broomell, Moore, Dunn, and Hodge, Planning and Zoning Director Eric Sennstrom, Human Resources Director Donna Nichols, Public Works Director Scott Flanigan, Economic Development Director Lisa Webb, Permits and Inspections Director Patrick Conway, Department of Emergency Services Deputy Director Amy Grabhill, Department of Emergency Services Director Richard Brooks, Health Officer Stephanie Garrity, Budget Manager Craig Whiteford, Executive Office Administrator Vicky Rinkerman, Administrative Assistant Katie Piazza, County Administrator Alfred Wein, County Attorney Norman Wilson, Treasurer Bill Feehley, members of the press, and members of the public.

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

9:02 a.m. – President Mullin called the meeting to order.

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

Closed Session

The Board convened in closed session on June 26, 2012 at 10:05 a.m. On motion made by Vice President Broomell, seconded by Commissioner Dunn, the Board moved to convene in closed session pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code State Government 10-508(a) (1) (ii) To review and discuss applications for appointment to various Boards and Commissions; Board, staff, county attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

Present at Closed Session: Commissioners Mullin, Broomell, Moore, Dunn, and Hodge, Executive Office Administrator Vicky Rinkerman and Administrative Assistant Katie Piazza.

Topics of discussion and action taken (if necessary):

Executive Office Administrator Rinkerman advised the Board that the party affiliations for all applicants and present members had been provided to the Board, and at the previous closed session the Board agreed to submit names of applicants that they felt were qualified to be considered for appointment to the Ethics Commission and the Board of License Commissioners—Liquor Board

President Mullin advised the Board that each member could submit up to three (3) names and that there are two (2) vacancies on the Ethics Commission and one (1) on the Liquor Board.

Members of the Board submitted their names for consideration to the Ethics Board.

Discussion ensued on the proposed list of names submitted for consideration for appointment to the Ethics Commission.

Discussion ensued on the proposed list of names submitted for the consideration for appointment to the Board of License Commissioners—Liquor Board.

Vice President Broomell commented that in the future research needs to be done in order to ensure that the applicants presented to the Board do not have any conflicts of interest.

The Board agreed to review the applications submitted for the Economic Development Board and be prepared to submit three (3) names for consideration for appointment and discussion by the Board and finish the appointments for the Ethics Commission and the Board of License Commissioners—Liquor Board at the next closed session meeting on July 3, 2012.

The closed meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Update on June 29, 2012 Storm

Mullin advised the Board and public that Director Brooks, Director Flanigan, Director Conway, Health Officer Garrity, and Deputy Director Crabhill were present to give an update on the storm from Friday June 29, 2012.

Director Brooks presented an update from the storm on Friday and the steps taken by profession personal during the storm and the days following.

Commissioner Hodge commented on the severity of the storm and lack of storm warning for our area.

The Board discussed the following:

- Reasons why there were no severe storm warnings for Cecil County;
- Number of homes and property that were damaged;
- Process for opening cooling stations in the county;
- Forms of media available to educate the public on precautions to take for extreme heat;
- Emergency plans for Seneca Point Wastewater Treatment Plant and other wastewater plants in case of a power outage;
- Process to alert town officials of available resources during and after a storm;
- Promotion of the Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) for communities; and
- Number of county residents still without power after the storm

Director Conway advised the Board that the houses damaged during the storm have been posted as unsafe pending further evaluation of the structure. This information was reported incorrectly by the Cecil Whig.

Director Flanigan advised the Board of the steps and actions that were taken by Public Works staff to respond to the emergency during and after the storm.

Health Officer Garrity provided the Board the results of a 2009 study relative to heat related deaths throughout the state. She advised the Board and public that the Emergency Response Plans do not include formal cooling stations. Health Department staff encourages citizens to prepare a plan of action and seek shelter at a friend's or family's house, or to go to places open to the public that have air conditioning.

Commissioner Hodge commented on his concerns relative to residents receiving information on available resources during extreme conditions.

Members of the Board thanked staff for their prompt response and update on the storm.

Approval of Minutes

On motion made by Commissioner Dunn, seconded by Vice President Broomell, the Board moved to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2012 Worksession meeting, June 26, 2012 Closed Session meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Request to Fill Positions

Director Nichols reviewed the following requests to fill positions:

Circuit Court for Cecil County for a budgeted Circuit Court Administrator position;

Discussion ensued regarding the procedure for advertising and hiring positions in Circuit Court.

The Board agreed to authorize the Human Resources department to advertise and fill the position as presented.

Department of Senior Services and Community Transit for a part time Senior Information and Assistant Specialist with an increase of four (4) hours due to increased grant funds;

Commissioner Dunn requested and the Board agreed to postpone approval of this position until the July 10, 2012 Worksession.

Department of Public Works submitted for a budgeted Civil Engineer position;

The Board agreed to authorize the Human Resources department to advertise and fill the position as presented.

Discussion ensued regarding the Manager of Park Operations position. The Board was advised that this position was being tabled until a later date.

Information Technology Department for a budgeted Content Management Specialist position;

The Board agreed to authorize the Human Resources department to advertise and fill the position as presented.

Department of Emergency Services for a budgeted Paramedic position;

The Board agreed to authorize the Human Resources department to advertise and fill the position as presented.

Video Lottery Terminal Community Grant Award Recommendations

Executive Office Administrator Rinkerman presented the recommendations from the VLT Local Community Grant Committee for 2013 VLT Local Community Grants.

Executive Office Administrator Rinkerman advised the Board that three grant information meetings were held, fifty-nine grant applications were submitted for funding, and the timeline has been revised. Through the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) DHMH, the state is in the process of developing a Center of Excellence for Problem Gambling to develop and implement a statewide plan. She reviewed the request from Haven House to extend their 2012 grant for a gambling addiction and prevention program. The recommendation from the VLT Grant Committee is to deny the grant extension for Haven House and to hold \$50,000 for the county to coordinate local services and resources with the Center of Excellence. DHMH has awarded the RFP for the Center of Excellence, effective July 1, 2012, and a meeting will be scheduled with officials to discuss their role in providing assistance to local jurisdictions.

Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Broomell commented that the State is obligated to address problem gambling as provided in the legislation. They expressed their concerns with using local resources to address these issues.

The Board discussed the following:

- Coordinating local efforts and resources for problem gambling with the State's Center of Excellence for Problem Gambling;
- Number of organizations that attended grant information meetings ;
- Summary provided by James E. Backert;
- Projects submitted for grant funding are different from last year

The Board agreed to authorize staff to proceed with scheduling a meeting with DHMH officials to discuss the State's plans for the Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling.

Executive Office Administrator Rinkerman commented on the option available to provide partial funding, which enabled the grant review committee to recommend more projects, and advised the Board that some organizations reapplied for grant funds, but for different projects.

Commissioner Items

Commissioner Dunn commented on the tour of the McMillian property curatorship project, and he thanked the Rickett's family for all their hard work.

Vice President Broomell had no comment

Commissioner Moore commented on a Plumpton Park Zoo event, and she reviewed the itinerary for the meeting with the Delegation from the island of Minahasa, Indonesia on July 9, 2012.

Discussion ensued regarding Solid Waste Management Division Chief Pete Bieniek's future trip to Minahasa to provide training on waste management.

Commissioner Hodge commented on the severity of the storm that occurred on June 29, 2012, and advised the public and local officials to be better prepared for future storms.

President Mullin commented on the community efforts, specifically in District 1, in response to the storm. He reviewed the essential list of items to have on hand for an emergency.

President Mullin advised the Board to submit any comments, concerns, or changes to Director Sennstrom with regard to the SB 236 Fact Sheet.

CLOSED SESSION

10:25 AM

On motion made by Commissioner Moore, seconded by Vice President Broomell, 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 appointment to various Boards and Commissions. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT CLOSED SESSION

11:52 AM

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

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