

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
December 12, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: President Joyce Bowsbey, Vice President Dan Schneckenburger, Bob Meffley, 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 Bowsbey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

**10:07 A.M.**

On motion made by Councilman Patchell, seconded by Vice President Schneckenburger, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, §3-305 (a) (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Roll Call Vote: Meffley - A, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell - Y, Gregory - A, Bowsbey - Y. The motion was carried by a vote of 3 to 0. Councilman Meffley and Councilwoman Gregory were absent.

Present: Council Members: President Bowsbey, Vice President Schneckenburger, Councilman Patchell, James Massey, Council Manager, Terry Hale, Council Assistant; Jason Allison, County Attorney, and Al Wein, Director of Administration.

Mr. Allison reviewed pending legislation and the administration's hiring of legal counsel.

On motion made by Councilman Patchell, seconded by Vice President Schneckenburger, the Council moved to conclude the closed session at 10:17 a.m.

Roll Call Vote: Meffley - A, Schneckenburger - Y, Patchell - Y, Gregory - A, Bowsbey - Y. The motion was carried by a vote of 3 to 0. Councilman Meffley and Councilwoman Gregory were absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of December 5, 2017, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Vice President Schneckenburger, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council closed session of December 5, 2017, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Legislative Update**

Vice President Schneckenburger reported on legislation discussed by the Rural County Coalition recently. There is concern on three environmental-related legislative proposals that affect rural counties. One proposal to the Forest Conservation Act would require no net loss policy on forest coverage. Another proposal concerns the approval of large solar installations by the Public Service Commission instead of the county's planning and zoning office. The third proposal would add more pressure to small county staff for Public Information Act requests.

#### **MACo Update**

Vice President Schneckenburger reviewed the Clean Chesapeake Coalition meeting at the MACo conference last week. Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Environment, presented an update of state environmental issues, which included Total Maximum Daily Load, Conowingo Dam pilot dredging project, BAT septic systems, nutrient trading plan, the Governor's Better Maryland plan and next year's budget.

Vice President Schneckenburger participated on a MACo panel regarding fire service transitions from public to private forces. He also attended a program regarding litigation on large pharmaceutical corporations by counties.

Councilwoman Gregory reported on programs on the Kirwan Commission and transportation scoring system. She also commented on the value of collaboration with other counties and discussed the need for Cecil County Government cooperating with other counties for better pricing and efficiency.

Councilman Meffley reported on a rural broadband program that he attended. He also reported on the state's progress in replenishing the oyster population in the Bay. He stated that the Conowingo Dam dredging pilot project begins soon. He discussed concerns for the solar fields proposed on farmland.

#### **FY 2019 Council Departmental Budget**

Council Manager Massey presented a proposed FY 2019 Council departmental budget. He stated that the FY 2019 budget is the same as the FY 2018 budget. He discussed more efforts in recruiting an intern.

During discussion, the Council requested that an independent auditor be hired by April 1, 2018 to assist the Council with the proposed FY 2019 budget proposed by the Executive. The request was supported by Vice President Schneckenburger, Councilman Meffley and Councilman Patchell.

During discussion, the Council requested that the Council Attorney be scheduled for legal advice on a pending legal issue. Council Members agreed to obtain a quotation for a work table for the

Council Manager and Council Assistant. Council Members also agreed to obtain a tripod to replace the existing one.

**Council Manager Report**

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events. Council Members suggested that provide General Taylor with guidelines of the subject matter, length of presentation and any other details.

**Council Member Comments**

Councilman Patchell and Councilwoman Gregory had no comments.

Councilman Meffley attended the Economic Development Commission and commented on Delmarva Power’s sizeable investment in Cecil County.

Vice President Schneckeburger attended the Economic Development Commission and commented on Artesian Water’s major investment in Cecil County and the relocating of Midline Industries to Cecil County. He also will be attending the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore annual meeting tonight.

President Bowsbey commented on meeting Lourdes Padilla, the new Secretary of Human Services, who previously worked in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

She announced that Shalini Arora is the new Director of the Department of Social Services.

Ms. Bowsbey attended the Local Management Board and commented on the appointment of a new Children and Trauma subcommittee, the request for recommendations from Mike Brandon, Director of the Paris Foundation, on the handling of the homeless, and use of the training film, “Brains on Race” and “Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope”. She will be attending today’s Employee Holiday Open House.

**Adjournment**

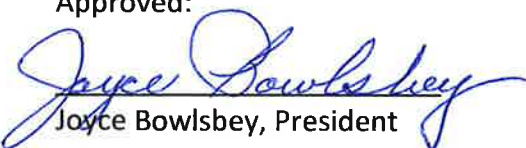
On a motion made by Councilwoman Gregory, seconded by Councilman Meffley, the work session was adjourned by Council President Bowsbey at 9:41 a.m.

Attest:



James Massey  
Council Manager

Approved:



Joyce Bowsbey, President