

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 26, 2019**

PRESENT: Council Members: Robert Meffley, William Coutz, Al Miller, 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 Meffley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and determined a quorum.

NOTE: Audio and video recording with transcription of this meeting are available on the County website www.ccgov.org.

CLOSED SESSION

March 19, 2019

10:00 a.m.

On motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y
The motion was carried unanimously.

Present: Council President Meffley, Vice President Gregory, Councilman Coutz, Councilman Miller, Councilman Patchell; James Massey, Council Manager; Terry Hale, Council Assistant; and Andrew Ondish of Weyrich, Cronin and Sorra.

The Council discussed their requirements for Mr. Ondish to assist the Council with budget analysis during the FY2020 budget process. Mr. Ondish left the chamber at 10:30am. Council President Meffley led discussion about Council communications. The Council discussed the need for legal services.

On motion made by vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to conclude the closed session at 10:35am.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Vice President Gregory, seconded by Councilman Coutz, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council work session of March 19, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council closed session of March 19, 2019, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Economic and Community Value of Cecil County Public Schools

Dr. Sarah Guy, Assistant Director of Business Economic and Community Outreach Network at Salisbury University, made a presentation regarding the economic and community values of Cecil County Public School system. She provided statistics about the impact that school operations have on the economy, the increase of earning income from students who earn high school and college degrees, the impact of more educated population on tax revenue, and the decrease in the cost of government programs because of a more educated population. Her cost model showed the actual amounts of these impacts for Cecil County. Council Members requested that Dr. Guy provide the methodology used to calculate this cost model.

National Library Week

Morgan Miller, Library Director, invited Council Members and the County Executive to participate in activities during National Library Week, April 7-13, 2019. She provided statistics of library usage and the services provided to library patrons.

State Legislation Update

Mr. Massey provided an update of the current status of state legislation that the Council had taken a position.

Council Manager Report

Mr. Massey updated Council Members about upcoming meetings and events.

Council Member Items

Councilman Patchell attended the Elkton Citizen of the Year banquet.

Councilman Miller attended the meeting regarding US301 traffic and commented on the farmers' concerns for farm equipment using roads that are congested. He attended the Voices of Hope banquet with other council members.

Councilman Coutz thanked the audience for attending. He attended an organizational meeting of the Fair Hill Racing and announced that there will be races on Friday night as well as a gala. He attended the Sheriff's intel meeting and commented on the sharp rise in overdoses and other associated crimes. He attended the Upper Shore Regional Council meeting in Chestertown.

Vice President Gregory thanked the audience for attending. She attended the Elkton Citizen of the Year banquet and expressed her congratulations to the Rees sisters. She attended the Voices of

Hope banquet and commented on the uplifting experience. She attended a performance of "Beauty and the Beast" at Milburn Stone Theater, performed by students from the Providence Christian Academy.

Council President Meffley attended the World of Culture program at Bohemia Manor High School and commented on teachers who provided personal experience of Jamaica, Spain and South Africa. He attended the Upper Shore Regional Council and commented that Cecil County received funding to support their broadband project. He stated that additional funds are available for economic development related projects in Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne's Counties. He attended a Trade Foundation meeting and commented that the houses completed by students from the School of Technology are being purchased by Habitat for Humanities. He attended a meeting of the Delmarva Boy Scout Council and commented on the need for more adults to led Scout troops. He attended the US301 traffic public meeting and commented that he hoped that the delegation could assist with resolving the high traffic problem on county roads near Warwick and Cecilton. He participated with the Elkton Rotary in collecting food for the homeless.

9:38 A.M.

CLOSED SESSION

On motion made by Councilman Coutz, seconded by Vice President Gregory, the Council moved to convene in closed session pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, § 3-305 (b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Roll Call Vote: Coutz-Y, Miller-Y, Patchell-Y, Gregory-Y, Meffley-Y.
The motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0.

9:59 A.M.

OPEN SESSION

The open session resumed at 9:59 am.

Adjournment

Councilman Coutz moved for adjournment, which was seconded by Vice President Gregory. Council President Meffley adjourned the meeting at 9:59 am.

Attest:


James Massey
Council Manager

Approved:


Robert Meffley,
Council President