

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY
109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

MINUTES
February 27, 2018

Present: President Larry C. Porter, Wilbur Levensgood Jr., Vice President; Daniel J. Franklin; Commissioner; County Administrator Ken Decker; Chief of Staff Sara Visintainer and County Attorney, Heather Price

At 5:42 on motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the commissioners unanimously adjourned regular session and convened in **Closed Session** for the following purposes: Discussion of Compensation of an At-will Employee: 2014 Md. Code, State Government 3-305 (b)(1).

At 6:01 p.m. on motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners came out of closed session.

President's Report: President Porter stated that the Commissioners met to discuss the compensation of a county employee, and made a recommendation to staff on how to proceed.

President Porter called for **public comment** and Michael Forrester, Greensboro resident, stated that he believes it is important for the Commissioners to remember all of the present and future business they could be impacting, by passing Legislative Bill #2017-5 Chapter 152—Roads, Bridges, and Right-of-ways—Specifications and Design Standards for County Roads.

Presentation of 5 Year Service Award: Ad Interim State's Attorney, Joseph Riley, presented Zachary Reid, Deputy State's Attorney with his 5 Year Service Award. He stated that Mr. Reid has been an asset to the Caroline County State's Attorney's Office for the past five years, and thanked him for his continued hard work and dedication to the citizens of Caroline County.

Proclamation of February 2018 and National Children's Oral Health Month in Caroline County: Shelly Andrew, Director of Community Programs and Marketing, Choptank Community Health, presented the Commissioners with the proclamation stating February as National Children's Oral Health Care Month in Caroline County. Ms. Andrews went on to state the importance of oral health for children and young adults, and explained that poor oral health can create many issues with health and mental stability in youth and effect the performance in children when it comes to their education. Ms. Andrews stated that last year over 1,000 Caroline County students received oral care services from Choptank Community Health, and they will be continuing to provide services as they are needed.

On motion by Commissioner Levensgood, seconded by Commissioner Franklin, the Commissioners moved to go into **legislative session** for the fifth reading of **Emergency Legislative Bill #2017-5, Chapter 152—Roads, Bridges and Right-of-Ways—Specification and Design Standards for County Roads**

Legislative Session: Fifth Reading and Potential Enactment: Emergency Legislative Bill #2017-5, Chapter 152 – Roads, Bridges, and Right-of-Ways – Specifications and Design Standards for County Roads: Ms. Visintainer stated that this is the fifth reading and potential enactment of Legislative Bill #2017-5. She stated that this bill is an emergency act concerning the specification and design standards for County roads; for the purpose of expanding the existing road specification and design

standards for uses that create a substantive impact and increased traffic on County roads; by adding a new 152-8.B.-152-8.F. to the Code of Public Local Laws of Caroline County Maryland. Ms. Visintainer stated that the bill was updated to hold the past five amendments that were voted on during the February 13, 2018 Commissioners Meeting.

Commissioner Porter stated that it is not his intent, or the Boards, to adopt legislation to turn business away from Caroline County or make it harder to thrive. He explained however that since taking office in 2010, the Highway User Funds, which are provided by the State of Maryland, were cut drastically from 20 million dollars given to the local counties, to now less than \$500,000. With the cut in funding to replace and maintain County roads, it is crucial for the Commissioners to save funds and create ways to support their local road way structures. He stated that this particular ordinance would put the burden on the business that adds wear and tear to the road, and with their help, County roads will be able to be maintained and drivable without putting the stress on the taxpayers. Commissioner Porter stated that even with the additional amendments add to this bill, he still feels it needs to be re-worked and he is not ready to vote on it yet.

Commissioner Levensgood stated that he is not comfortable with the way the bills read in its current form and he feels that it should be reworked to ensure the business understand who is evaluating the roads and who gives the recommendation on what needs to be done to ensure they are drivable

Commissioner Franklin stated that he believes the Board should get rid of the Bill completely and add more detailed language to Ordinance #2018-1, Zoning Mineral Extraction Facilities, he stated by doing this County can cover all of the information in one piece of legislation. He stated that a section should be added to finalized site plan approval which would also be subjected to facility impact and those neighboring properties that can also be impacted. The Commissioners asked staff to draft added language to Ordinance #2018-01, Zoning Mineral Extraction Facilities, that would cover the importance of Legislative Bill #2017-5, Chapter 152 – Roads, Bridges, and Right-of-Ways – Specifications and Design Standards for County Roads.

On motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners adjourned Legislative Session.

2018 State Legislative Update: Ms. Visintainer stated that she attended the hearings for the County's requested bill regarding the liquor licenses for bed and breakfasts in the County. She stated that a letter of support was submitted on behalf of the Commissioner's for Compass Regional Hospice's bond bill. She stated that MACo has met to discuss the local income tax bills for Maryland's tax laws. She stated that next week she will be meeting to learn more about the local infrastructure bill to see when the County may receive restoration of State Highway User Revenues.

Consent Agenda: the following items were approved by unanimous consent

- Minutes: Open and Closed Session of January 23, 2018 and February 13, 2018
- General Services Contract with George, Miles & Buhr
- Resolution #2018-003, Amendment to Caroline County Personnel Rules and Regulations, Sick and Safe Leave
- CDBG Agreement for St. Martin's Ministries and Sub-Recipient Agreement
- Purchase Order #2018-00000, Alliance Technology Group, \$42,985.00 for Dell PowerVault MD3820i and PowerVault MD1220
- Employment Contract for Department of Emergency Services – EMS – EMT-B (Gunderson, Scheerer)

- Part-Time Employment Contract for Caroline County Recreation and Parks Specialist I (Hanrahan)
- Deed of Forest Conservation Easement and ROW for the Trust of Charles B. Blackshear III (Map 52, Grid 15, Parcel 12)
- Reappointment Caroline County Planning Commission (Mosca)

County Administrator's Report

- Mr. Decker stated that the Office of Finance and Tax are working hard on the budget and he is looking forward to the Budget Round Table discussion on March 6, 2018, with both the internal and allied agencies.
- He stated that the damaged drywall located at the Caroline County Humane Society has been restored.
- He explained that he has emailed Dorchester County to discuss shared funding of a new bridge.
- Mr. Decker informed the Commissioners that he followed up on citizens' complaints related to poultry on residential property.
- He stated that information had been forwarded to the Board regarding the interest of the YMCA of the Chesapeake looking to build a new center in Caroline County.
- He stated that a closed session would be added to the end of this meeting regarding a pressing matter.

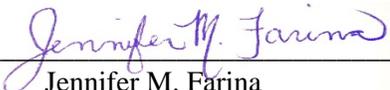
County Commissioners Open Discussion Period:

- Commissioner Franklin stated that he attended the Farm Bureau Banquet as well as the Federalsburg Fire Company's award ceremony.
- Commissioner Levengood stated that he attended the Caroline County Most Beautiful Volunteer ceremony, and he reminded everyone that the Caroline County Commission on Aging is hosting a St. Patrick's Day dinner on March 17, 2018 from 5:00-8:00p.m. at the Greensboro Fire House, to benefit the Meals on Wheels program.
- Commissioner Porter stated that he received an email from the Denton Police Department requesting to remove some parking meters that are located on the Courthouse green, to install new pedestals that will allow citizens to pay for parking with a credit card. Commissioner Porter stated that parking by the courthouse has been an ongoing discussion had between the Town of Denton and the County, however he does not see an issue in allow them to install the machines. Mr. Decker asked Ms. Price to follow up with the Town to discuss a legal agreement regarding the new equipment, and to discuss any rate that may be available to Courthouse employees. Ms. Visintainer also stated that the Town of Denton or the Denton Police Department would need to follow up with Recreation and Parks to make sure the placement of the machines would not interfere with any activities around the courthouse. She also stated that the County may want to discuss with the Town, the subject of adding additional handicapped parking due to the lack of parking spaces provided to date and restriping the spaces.

At 7: 17 on motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levengood, the commissioners unanimously adjourned regular session and convened in **Closed Session** for the following purposes: Discussion of an issue related to employee data and privacy and Discussion of the Potential Employment of an At-will Employee: 2014 Md. Code, State Government 3-305 (b)(2) &(1).

President's Report: President Porter stated that the Commissioners met with staff to be briefed on a breach of employee data and steps that would need to be taken from this point forward. The Commissioner also met to discuss the potential hire of an at-will employee.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Jennifer M. Farina
Administrative Coordinator