

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

**WORK SESSION**  
**August 7, 2018**

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

The Work Session convened at 9:04 a.m.

**Topic One: Proclamation of August 12, 2018 as “Choose Civility Week” in Caroline County**

Members of the Board of Education and the Caroline County Public Library read the proclamation to the Commissioners and stated the importance of being civil in the community, which involves being kind, professional, and understanding both in the public and in private.

**Topic Two: Homeless Board Update**

Patrick Allison, Director, Caroline County Homeless Board, introduced himself to the Board, and stated that he recently moved to Denton from Annapolis. He stated that Caroline County has over 300 homeless individuals and he is currently working with the Board to have a permanent shelter open year-round to accommodate those in need. Mr. Allison also stated that he will be bringing the Jaycees back to Caroline County which stands for Junior Chamber of Commerce. He explained that the Jaycees help build leadership skills among the youth and young adults in the county, as well as conduct community service projects such as planting trees or finishing sidewalks. Mr. Allison thanked the Commissioners for their time and stated that he would keep them updated on all further projects with the Homeless Board.

**Topic Three: Draft Enterprise Zone**

Debbie Bowden, Director, Caroline County Economic Development, stated that she has drafted with the Maryland Department of Commerce potential enterprise zones for the Towns of Ridgely, Greensboro, and Goldsboro. Ms. Bowden presented the Commissioners with the draft maps and stated that once she had the Commissioners on board, she would then meet with the Towns individually to move forward. The Commissioners stated that they approved the following enterprise zones, and Ms. Bowden should move forward with a formal request to the Towns.

**Topic Four: Street Lights in Rural Villages**

Ms. Visintainer stated that citizens from the Jonestown area contacted the Commissioner’s Office to discuss the County installing street lights in the area. She stated that recently the residents have witnessed vandalism and they feel lights will help reduce the crime in the area. Ms. Visintainer stated that she asked the citizens to attend a Commissioners meeting, so they could discuss the issue with the Commissioners further. Ms. Visintainer stated that this was not the first time the County has been asked to purchase street lights and explained that residents from the Hickman area requested the County take over paying for lights in their rural village. The Commissioners stated that they were not interested in paying for street lights in the unincorporated areas due to the cost and overall responsibility it would be to maintain the lights. The Commissioners stated that they would gladly listen to concerns of the residents over the light issues and work on alternative solutions.

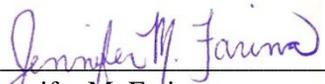
**Commissioner Open Discussion:**

- Commissioner Porter stated that it has come to the Board’s attention that a property located at 10201 River Landing Road is an unsafe structure. Seth Hampton, Caroline County Codes Enforcement Officer, stated that while the property appears fine from the street, the river side of

the property clearly shows that it is an unsafe structure in danger of collapse into the public waterway. The Commissioners stated that they are taking action through their Code Enforcement Officer under Chapter 170 of the Caroline County Code to condemn the property. Mr. Hampton has determined that the state of the property is such that emergency exists, and time is of the essence to protect the public's health and safety and is therefore issuing an emergency order in order to speed the process to mitigate the safety risk to the public. The County will be reaching out to State agencies that must be involved due to the location of the property, including the Department of Natural Resources, Department of the Environment, and Critical Area Commission, to ensure that the property is razed and removed as quickly and safely as possible.

- Commissioner Franklin stated that he enjoyed the Caroline/ Dorchester 4-H Fair and stated that the Fair Board did a great job of creating a friendly family-oriented event.
- Commissioner Levengood stated that he had a busy weekend and enjoyed the many events held in the County.

There being no further discussion the meeting ended at 10:30 a.m.

  
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Jennifer M. Farina  
Administrative Coordinator