

**Public Business Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, October 5, 2023 - 5:00 PM

*Allegany County Office Building, 701 Kelly Road, Allegany Room 100
Cumberland, Maryland 21502*

WE ASK THOSE CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD TO REGISTER ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET AND CONDENSE THEIR COMMENTS TO FIVE MINUTES OR LESS. THIS WILL ALLOW AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE WISHING TO COME FORWARD TO HAVE A CHANCE TO SPEAK. WE WILL CONDUCT OUR MEETING IN AN ORDERLY FASHION AND ASK THAT EVERYONE WISHING TO SPEAK FIRST BE RECOGNIZED BY THE PRESIDENT, COME TO THE MICROPHONE, AND GIVE HIS OR HER NAME AND ADDRESS PRIOR TO THEIR COMMENTS.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

2. Call to Order & Roll Call

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Allegany County was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Allegany Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, on 10/5/2023. Present: County Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr., County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, County Commission President David J. Caporale, County Administrator Jason Bennett, County Attorney Lee Beeman.

3. Approval of Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

Upon Motion made by County Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr., seconded by County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, and duly carried, the Minutes from the previous public business meeting were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

5. Presentations

A. Economic Development Week Proclamation - Jeff Barclay, Director of Economic & Community Development

Commissioner Caporale read an official Proclamation in honor of Economic Development Week in Allegany County, which will be October 23rd - 27th. Mr. Barclay explained the importance of Economic Development in the State of Maryland, as well as the County. The Commissioners then presented Mr. Barclay with the Proclamation.

6. Public Hearing

7. Action Agenda

- A. Disbanding the Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Resolution 23-29 - **Dan DeWitt, P.E., County Engineer**

On May 17, 1982, the Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) was established by the approval of Governor Harry Hughes. This action was the result of the 1980 Census that resulted in the Cumberland Urbanized Area having a population density as defined by the Department of Commerce, that requires the creation of a Metropolitan Planning Organization. As a result of the 2020 Census, the Cumberland Urbanized Area no longer meets the Department of Commerce criteria to support a Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Federal transportation funding that it would have been eligible to receive. **Motion: Approve, By: William R. Atkinson, Seconded: Creade V. Brodie, Jr.. Yes: Creade V. Brodie, Jr., William R. Atkinson, David J. Caporale. No: None. Abstain: None.**

- B. Approve the Revision of the Solid Waste Management Plan to Include Geocycle, LLC as a Solid Waste Collection Facility - **Adam Strott, Economic Development Specialist**

A public hearing was held during the public meeting of the Board of Commissioners that occurred on September 21st, 2023 that allowed the public to comment on a revision to the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) for Allegany County that would add an approved waste facility located on 17300 Barton Park Dr., Cumberland, MD, operated by Geocycle, LLC. As is required by Maryland law, the Board of County Commissioners must vote on whether or not to revise the SWMP to add the facility. **Motion: Approve, By: Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Seconded: William R. Atkinson. Yes: Creade V. Brodie, Jr., William R. Atkinson, David J. Caporale. No: None. Abstain: None.**

- C. Approve Purchase of a Bearcat by the Sheriff's Office Patrol Division for \$341,288 - **Lt. Brett Lysinger, Sheriff's Department**

Lt. Lysinger explained what the Lenco BearCat is and how beneficial it could be to have an armored vehicle to get law enforcement safely into and out of high-threat situations. He provided a few examples of situations that could occur where this vehicle would be needed. Sheriff Robertson then added that once ordered, it would take about 12 months to take possession. He has been working on allocating funds for this purchase, and will continue to look for available funding.

Motion: Approve, By: Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Seconded: William R. Atkinson. Yes: Creade V. Brodie, Jr., William R. Atkinson, David J. Caporale. No: None. Abstain: None.

- D. Code Home Rule Bill 1-23 - Introduction - "An Act to Amend the Duties and Responsibilities of the Emergency Services Board" - **T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney**

Attorney Beeman provided background and details about Code Home Rule Bill 1-23. Mr. Beeman explained that tonight is just an introduction and the public hearing on the Bill would be held on the next Legislative Day, after which action could be taken on it.

8. Consent Agenda

Motion: Approve, By: William R. Atkinson, Seconded: Creade V. Brodie, Jr.. Yes: Creade V. Brodie, Jr., William R. Atkinson, David J. Caporale. No: None. Abstain: None.

- A. Acceptance of Grant Funding from MDOT - Maryland Highway Safety Office for the following initiatives and amounts:

- Buckle Up-Phone Down Occupant Protection - \$3,000
- Impaired Driving - \$6,500

- Speed Enforcement - \$3,000

B. Acceptance of Funding from the Maryland 9-1-1 Board for ESInet and NGCS Service in the amount of \$123,321.00

This will be fully funded by the MD 9-1-1 Board.

C. Acceptance of Funding from the Maryland 9-1-1 Board for PSAP Chairs in the amount of \$24,369.00

These chairs are for the 911 Center and will be fully funded by the MD 9-1-1 Board.

D. Approve Ford F250 Truck Lease for the Allegany County Utilities Division in the amount of \$1,046.84 per month

This will be leased from Enterprise as part of our agreement with Enterprise. This will be paid for by our Utilities budget.

E. Approve FY2024-2025 Bridge Inspection Contract through MDSHA for WSP USA Inc.

To perform inspections on 74 applicable structures throughout the County. The total cost will be \$718,829.42, which is 100% reimbursable through the County's share of the Federal Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement allocation.

F. Award Contract for Printing Services for 2024 Destination Guide to Freeport Press

of New Philadelphia, OH at a cost of .627 per unit for 70,000 guides to be printed for a total of \$43,890. This is based on our September RFP which received six (6) bids.

G. Consulting Agreement with Westwood Professional Services, Inc. for industrial wind energy conversion system decommissioning study

This study will be fully paid for by Dan's Mountain Wind Force, LLC.

9. Public Comment

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet:

- Randy Carter of Mt. Savage - spoke about the need for cellphone service in Mt. Savage. Roger Bennett, Deputy Director of Emergency Services, said we are waiting on AT&T to get approval to put their equipment on the existing tower.
- Max Green of Patterson Ave in Cumberland - spoke about the concerns he has with the bid award for development of the old Allegany High School site, and the process of the bidding.
- Nancy Guinta of Washington St in Cumberland - spoke in opposition of the bid award for the development of the old Allegany High School site.
- Jenny Lazarus of Magruder St in Cumberland - spoke in opposition of the bid award for the development of the old Allegany High School site.
- Doug Schwab of MacDonald Ter in Cumberland - spoke in opposition of the bid award for the development of the old Allegany High School site.
- Jack Slocumb of Washington St in Cumberland - spoke in opposition of the bid award for the development of the old Allegany High School site.
- Yvonne Perret of Bedford St in Cumberland - spoke in opposition of the bid award for the development of the old Allegany High School site.
- Woody Getz of Braddock Heights in Frostburg - was signed up first to speak, said he had nothing, then decided to come to the podium to speak at the end. He provided input on what was discussed by the other constituents.

10. Reports

A. County Administrator

Had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

B. County Attorney

Had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

11. Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Atkinson - Addressed the comments that were said during public comment. Explained the process of the bid award and how the awardee was selected.

12. Reminders/Upcoming Meetings

A. NEXT MEETING - Thursday, October 19, 2023, 5:00 PM

13. Adjournment

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 06:02 PM.