

**Public Business Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, February 22, 2024 - 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, at 05:01 PM on 2/22/2024. 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

Commissioner Atkinson asked for two additions to the Consent Agenda:

- Item 8H: Community Promotions Request for the Ty Johnson Football Skills Camp in the amount of \$100
- Item 8I: Community Promotions Request for the "Murder at the Museum" event put on by the Embassy Theater and the Allegany County Museum in the amount of \$100

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

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

6. Public Hearing

- A. Code Home Rule Bill 1-24 - "An Act to Amend the Violations and Penalties Found in Chapter 225 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Allegany County, Maryland" - **T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney**
At the previous public business meeting, CHRB 1-24 was introduced. This is an update to the text of current references to the State code. Attorney Beeman asked for any public comment, and there was none. He also stated there were no written comments received by his office. Being a Legislative Day, the Commissioners were able to take action to adopt the bill.

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.

- B. Code Home Rule Bill 2-24 - "An Act to Amend the Position of County Investigator Found in Chapter 16 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Allegany County, Maryland" - **T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney**
At the previous public business meeting, CHRB 2-24 was introduced. The States Attorney is requesting to hire a Narcotics Investigator and a Cyber Crimes Investigator. This will update the County Code to include three county investigators. Attorney Beeman asked for any public comment, and there was none. He also stated there were no written comments received by his office, and James Elliott, State's Attorney, also stated his office received no comments. Being a Legislative Day, the Commissioners were able to take action to adopt the bill.

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.

7. Action Agenda

- A. American Rescue Plan - DPW Funding Request - **Adam Patterson, Director of Public Works**
On October 7, 2021, the Commissioners approved \$4,665,000 of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding for the following projects: Bowling Green Meter Replacement, Bowling Green Water Booster Pump, Mexico Farms Waterline, Corriganville Waterline, Route 36 Waterline - PRV, Klondike Waterline, Extension of County Water, Cresaptown Sewer Replacement, Bowling Green Sewer Replacement, Georges Creek Misc. Sewer Repairs, Uhl Hwy (Golden Ave) PS Rehab., Tri-State (Potomac Park) PS Rehab., Braddock Run Sewer Rehab. (Stream Stab.), Bedford Sewer Rehab., Jennings Run Sewer Rehab., McCoolle Sewer Rehab., Bowling Green Misc. Sewer Repairs, Cresaptown Sewer Rehab., Flintstone WWTP, OP Misc. Stormwater Improvements, GAP Slide, Annex HVAC, Public Safety Building HVAC, and Courthouse HVAC. Some of these projects were not pursued due to a shortfall in funding and higher priority projects. The DPW completed over fifteen capital projects with the ARP funding addressing many utility issues along with several drainage problems. After the final project close-outs, the total expenditure was \$4,726,908.27. This amount was in excess of the original approval by \$58,908.27 (1.3% over-budget). Mr. Patterson requested to cover the over expenditure with unallocated ARP funding. Administrator Bennett added there are funds available.

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. Award Three- Year Contract to Cloudpermit for the Department of Planning and Zoning's New Permitting Software - **Jerrold Cook, Planner**

There was an RFP put out for the new permitting software system, and three companies ranked the highest. Out of these three, staff voted unanimously to move forward with awarding the contract to Cloudpermit. The cost of this will be divided over a three year period, and will be taken from the general operating budget. Asking the Commissioners for their approval to move forward with contracting this vendor.

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. Exercise Option Agreement for Lease of County Property on PPG Rd to Allegany Biochar, LLC - **Adam Strott, Economic Development Specialist**

The property being leased is the County's current Yard Trimmings and Mulch site, which Allegany Biochar will now operate as a stand up facility, and continue to offer the same service to the residents of Allegany County. There will also be some employment opportunities at this facility. Asking for the Commissioners to approve the lease agreement.

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.

- D. Professional Services - Approval of EADS Architects \$174,900.00 Proposal for Engineering and Design of Infrastructure and Neighborhood Improvements for Old Allegany High School Redevelopment - **Adam Strott, Economic Development Specialist**

The site of the old Allegany High School is now ready for engineering design. EADS has presented their proposal which the Director of Public Works was consulted on, and gave his approval. Mr. Strott is now asking the Commissioners for their approval to move forward with this part of the project.

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.

8. Consent Agenda

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.

- A. Resolution 24-5, Amending the Allegany County Solid Waste Management Plan
The plan will now include Allegany Biochar as a solid waste collection facility. The public hearing was held on January 30, 2024.
- B. Memorandum of Understanding for the AY2024 Courthouse Security Proposal
This is in order to accept grant funding in the amount of \$190,848.00.
- C. Fairgrounds Use Agreement with Western Maryland Jaycees for Wing-Off
This event will be held June 14-15, 2024. The rent is set at \$2,500 with additional rent based on the number of campers.
- D. Old Allegany High School Field Use Agreement with LaVale Soccer Club
This is for use of the football field and parking lot during their spring season before the construction starts.
- E. Request for Travel from Staff of Jane's Place to the 40th International Symposium on Child Abuse
This event will be held March 18-21, 2024 in Hunstville, AL and the cost should be under \$2,500, which will be reimbursed through grant and scholarship funding.
- F. Community Promotion Request for the 4th Annual Allegany County Social Services Board's Crabs for a Cause Fundraising Event in the amount of \$500
This event will be held on September 28, 2024.

G. Emergency Services Board Appointments

The Emergency Services Board (ESB) was created to regulate the fire, emergency medical services, and other related services for Allegany County.

In February 2024, the Fire Chief's and EMS committees met and elected the following positions;

Fire Services Committee:

Chair: Shannon Adams

Vice Chair: Wes Foor

Member-at-Large: Tim Dayton

Alternate Member-at-Large: Wayne Rounds

EMS Committee:

Chair: Vince Pyle

Vice Chair: Allen Ruby

Alternate Member-at-Large: Dottie Ruby

Emergency Services Board:

Career Representative: Michael Salvadge

- H. Community Promotions Request for the Ty Johnson Football Skills Camp in the amount of \$100 (Item added at the start of the BOCC public business meeting)

This event will be held on May 18, 2024.

- I. Community Promotions Request for the "Murder at the Museum" Event Presented by the Allegany County Museum and the Embassy Theater in the amount of \$100 (Item added at the start of the BOCC public business meeting)

This event will be held April 11-13, 2024.

9. Public Comment

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet:

- David Kreegan of 557 Bedford Valley Rd in Bedford, PA - Came to discuss the Rural Legacy program, and encouraged the Commissioners to approve the sale of land that is unable to be developed upon. Mr. Kreegan would also like to see the Commissioners expand the boundaries of the program.
- Dan Williams of 12916 St. Georges Ln in Mt. Savage - Acting in his position as President of the Mt. Savage Special Taxing Committee, came to ask permission to put a shed at the Community Park, which the County owns, if needed. Administrator Bennett and the Commissioners told Mr. Williams as long as it is not a permanent structure, the shed could be placed there. Attorney Beeman commented that the Operations and Maintenance Agreement may need to be amended.

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 - Commended Ty Johnson for giving back to the community, and stated he is happy to support his camp.
- Commissioner Brodie - Had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.
- Commissioner Caporale - Had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

12. Reminders/Upcoming Meetings

A. NEXT MEETING - Thursday, March 21, 2024, 5:00 PM

13. Adjournment

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 05:30 PM.