

**Public Business Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, September 4, 2025 - 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 05:00 PM on 9/4/2025. 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

Upon Motion made by County Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr., seconded by County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, and duly carried, the Agenda for this public business meeting was approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

4. Statement of Closed Meeting

A. Statement Regarding the Closed Session Held on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 4:00PM

Attorney Beeman read a statement regarding the closed session. A copy of this statement is attached to the agenda packet.

5. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

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

6. Presentations

A. Citation: Resources for Independence, Inc. Celebrating 30 Years - Lori Magruder, Executive Director

The Center for Independent Living is a non-profit resource and advocacy center that promotes independent living and equal access for people of all ages with all types of disabilities residing in Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties. Commissioner Caporale stated they have been an exceptional community partner and thanked them for their commitment and dedication to the citizens of Allegany County. He then invited Ms. Lori Magruder to the podium to say a few words.

Ms. Magruder introduced Board Member Craig Alexander and Assistant Director John Michaels who were also in attendance. Thanked the Commissioners for the honor and citation.

7. Public Hearing

8. Action Agenda & Public Comment

A. Ratification #7 of Emergency Procurements Pursuant to Res. 25-04, 25-08, & 25-10 - Dan DeWitt, P.E., County Engineer

Resolution 25-04 was adopted on May 22, 2025 to temporarily suspend the provisions of Allegany County Code Section 38-8 (concerning procurement of bids and contracts for necessary public work or improvements, or for the purchase of supplies and equipment) for a period of sixty days (subsequent to the flash flooding event in Allegany County on May 13, 2025.) Resolution 25-08 was then adopted on July 10, 2025 to extend the sixty day period to an additional thirty days. Furthermore, another additional thirty days was granted under the adoption of Resolution 25-10 on August 7, 2025. The Allegany County Department of Public Works has authorized numerous emergency Procurements since the adoption these Resolutions. Subject to the terms set forth in Resolution 25-04, the County Commissioners must ratify these emergency Procurements at the next public business meeting after the Procurements were authorized. This is the seventh round of emergency Procurements, and are made part of the agenda packet. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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.

9. Consent Agenda & Public Comment

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.

One person signed up to speak on Item C - Allegany County Library System Board of Trustees Appointments. Commissioner Caporale invited her up to the podium before the Consent Agenda was summarized by Administrator Bennett:

- Vicki Brenneman of 17 N Liberty St in Cumberland - Representing the members of the "Save the Westernport Library - Steering Committee", which is the new non-profit foundation that has been raising money for the library, came to say thank you. She publicly thanked the County Commissioners, Senator McKay, Mayor Judy Hamilton, remaining members of the Board of Trustees, the Allegany County Library System, and the Board of Trustees appointment nominees who are on this meeting's agenda, and Lisa McKinney, the interim director of the library.

A. Accept the PACT Grant from GOCPP in the amount of \$66,719

These funds will be used for the Helios Year 3 cloud storage of body camera and video footage, the Karpel case management system and the iSubpoena app to increase the efficiency of the State's Attorney's office. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

B. Allegany County Commission for Women Appointments

Shea Bonarigo and Jessica Lynne Colwell will serve three-year terms, which will expire June 30, 2028, to fill open positions on the Commission. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

C. Allegany County Library System Board of Trustees Appointments

Molly Nelson McCord will fill the vacancy left by Gary Leasure, and her term will expire June 30, 2028. Jack Coburn will fill the vacancy left by Dr. Artie Travis, and his term will expire June 30, 2028. Katie Weir will fill the position left by Sue Rudd, who fulfilled her five-year term, and Katie will serve a five-year term which will expire June 30, 2030. Vicki Brenneman signed up to speak on this item, and spoke before the Consent Agenda was summarized.

D. Allegany County Police Accountability Board Appointment

Ken Stevens will serve a three-year term which will expire September 1, 2028, to fill an open position on the Board. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

E. Potomac Highlands Airport Authority Board of Directors Re-appointment

David White will serve another three-year term, which will expire June 30, 2028. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

F. Resolution 25-12 Rules and Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County

This is a total review and revision of County's Vehicle Policy. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

10. General Public Comment

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet:

- Senator Mike McKay of 100 Mechanic St in Cumberland - Commissioner Caporale invited Senator McKay up to the podium after the approval of the previous meeting's minutes. Senator McKay gave the minutes from a meeting of the Georges Creek Task Force, which was created after the devastating floods of May 2025. Also, thanked the County Staff, Commissioners and Administration and Governor Wes Moore and his staff for the admirable job everyone is doing in regards to the flood.
- Dave Morgan of 12117 Mason Rd in Cumberland - Officially announced his candidacy for Allegany County Sheriff in the upcoming 2026 election, and gave a background of his life and career.
- Jack Coburn of 60 Main St in Lonaconing - Thanked the Library System and the Commissioners for the nomination and appointment to the Board of Trustees. Also, addressed the Town of Lonaconing's water bill that is owed to the County.

11. Reports

A. County Administrator

- Echoed comments of the Library Board and Lisa McKinney and thanked everyone involved.
- Gave an update on the water situation for residents who are customers of the American Water Service by saying a meeting will be held hopefully in October.

B. County Attorney

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

12. Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Atkinson - Work on the site and grounds at the former Allegany High School site is set to start in the next couple of days.
- 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.

13. Reminders/Upcoming Meetings

A. NEXT MEETING - Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5:00 PM

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 05:36 PM.