
MINUTES – November 5, 2025

The Allegany County Board of License Commissioners held a meeting on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. The meeting was conducted at 9:00 A.M. in Room 100 of the Allegany County Office Complex. Present for the meeting were Chairman – Tom Farrell, Commissioner – Jim Stafford, Commissioner – Ron Miller, Office Administrator – Brandy Gordon, Chief Inspector – Keith Bageant, and Board Attorney – Ramani Pillai. Also present for the meeting were Caleb Grabenstein, Charles Jones II, Rebecca Ruppert, Jenna Burkett, Keri Whitacre, Glenn Hall, and William McElvie Jr.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Farrell. The Board approved the October 15, 2025 meeting minutes.

A One-day special class “C” license for beer and wine was approved for Charles Jones II, Krista Johnson, and Charlie Miller Jr with the Bowman’s Addition Volunteer Fire Department. They will be holding a Cash Bash on Saturday, November 22, 2025 from 11:30 AM to 5:30 PM at the Bowman’s Addition Volunteer Fire Department located at 11710 Boardwalk Avenue, Cumberland. In order to attend the event patrons must purchase a \$20.00 ticket that includes the cost of alcoholic beverages. Members of the fire department will be serving the beer and wine out of a window in the kitchen area. All ID’s will be checked at the door and anyone 21 years of age and older will receive a wristband. All proceeds from the event will be used to purchase fire equipment for the department. There being no questions, Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve, Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Chairman Farrell.

A One-day special class “C” license for beer was approved for William McElvie Jr, Eugene George Jr, and John Pratt with the Cresaptown Volunteer Fire Department. They will be holding a Holiday Bash on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at the Allegany County Fairgrounds Multipurpose Building, 11490 Moss Avenue, Cumberland from 12 to 5 PM. There is a ticket fee of \$25.00 to attend the event which covers the cost of beer. Fire company members will be serving the beer. ID’s will be checked at the entry point and anyone 21 years of age and older will receive a wristband. There being no questions. Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve, Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Chairman Farrell.

A One-day special class “C” license for beer and wine was approved for Rebecca Ruppert, Allissa Tomlinson, and Anna Saweikis with the Allegany College of Maryland Foundation Inc. They will be holding a continuing education Culinary Course on Tuesday, November 11, 2025. There is a \$69.00 fee per couple to attend the course. The course will take place from 5 to 7 PM at the Culinaire Café, 110 Baltimore Street, Cumberland. There will be no minors on the premises. Allegany College of Maryland faculty and staff will be serving the alcohol. There being no questions, Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve, Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Chairman Farrell.

A One-day special class “C” license for beer and wine was approved for Timothy Abrell, Christine Lechliter, and Matthew Simmons with UPMC Western Maryland. UPMC Western Maryland will be hosting the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce After Hours Event on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event will take place in the auditorium of UPMC hospital, 12500 Willowbrook Road, Cumberland. UPMC catering staff will be serving the alcohol. There will be no minors present for the event. The ticket fee to attend the event covers the cost of alcohol. There being no questions, Commissioner Stafford made a motion to approve, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Chairman Farrell.

There was a hearing on the transfer of a Class “D” Beer, Wine, and Liquor alcoholic beverage license. The license is currently held by J2 Adventures LLC trading as Main Street Pub, 167 E Main Street, Frostburg. The current licensee is Jennifer Slider. Application has been made to transfer this alcoholic beverage license to Caleb Grabenstein with Pour Pony LLC, trading as Pour Pony, located at 106 South Wineow Street, Cumberland. Chairman Farrell asked Mr. Grabenstein if he had a trailer that he rented out for events. Mr. Grabenstein explained that he has a trailer that he rents along with a trained bartender. He stated that no alcoholic beverages are included with the trailer rental nor are any products transported on said trailer. Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Grabenstein if he offered some type of discount on alcohol if a patron purchased the alcoholic beverages from his store. Mr. Grabenstein stated that he offered a discount on the trailer not on the alcoholic beverages. Board Attorney, Ramani Pallai agreed to look into the matter to make sure there would be no issues. Office Administrator reminded the Board that this license is currently being used at Main Street Pub that Ms. Slider would have to come in to the next hearing before the transfer could take place. Chairman Farrell made a motion to approve the transfer pending receipt of the federal ID number and statement stating how much

stock is owned within by each member in Pour Pony LLC, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Stafford.

The Board received a complaint from the ATCC Tip Line in regards to the Beach Club located at 202 Center Street, Frostburg. The Board requested licensee, Glenn Hall to attend today's meeting. Chairman Farrell read the complaint to Mr. Hall. He stated that a Trisha Garner stated that her daughter who is a Frostburg State University student has on 8 occasions been served alcohol while being 17 and 18 years of age. She gave dates of 9/12-9/13/2025, 9/19-9/20/2025, 9/26-9/27/2025, and 10/03-10/04/2025. She stated that her daughter was not carded to get into the club. She also stated that on two occasions liquor was poured directly into her mouth from a bartender. Mr. Hall stated that he was unaware of any of this occurring. He explained that the only way she could have gained entry was through a kitchen door. Glenn stated that he replaced said door about 3 weeks ago so that a key must be used to open the door from the inside. Mr. Hall stated that last Saturday a patron decided to light off a firework inside the establishment. He would have never thought this would ever happen at his place, but it did and he has had to hire a security person that no one knows about to work this weekend to see if he has an issue with staff or if it is a customer issue. Mr. Hall stated that none of his employees were college students. Mr. Hall spoke about other incidents occurring in his establishment such as a chandelier being tore down, a hole being punched in the drywall in the bathroom, and patrons bringing in their own mini bottles of liquor. Mr. Hall stated that he would review his cameras to see if the pouring alcohol directly into patrons' mouths was occurring. He stated that he would make sure all of his employees knew this was not acceptable.

The Board had a meeting with Chief Pyles in regards to Merchant's Alley. It has been established that ownership of Merchant's Alley belongs 50% to Uncle Jack's and 50% to Niner's Canal Pub. The Board would like to have the licensees to attend the next meeting to discuss repetitive violations occurring in the Alley. The Inspector stated that both establishments closed at 1:30 AM during the Ghouley Pub Crawl because the crowd was getting rowdy. The Cumberland City Police and City of Cumberland Mayor and/or Council will also be requested to attend the meeting.

Mad Hatter Boba Emporium located at 48 North Centre Street, Cumberland had been in contact with the office to possibly extend the address at their location. The Board went to look at the location to see if this would be possible. At the present time with the address being as is, there is no issue and the address will remain. If the address needs to be updated, a new lease agreement will need to be submitted.

There was general discussion among the Board in regards to the 2025 Supplement to the law book. Commissioner Miller had questions in regards to §11-903 for Anne Arundel County. The way he read it, it states they could have two licenses for one address. Board Attorney said that he would look into that to see exactly what it was meaning. There was talk about ways to create revenue for the county. It was suggested that the Liquor Board could start charging an application fee or provide a bartender license for a set amount of money. The Board liked the ideas, but feel at this time it is not good to raise fees for license holders. Christine Sturtz with Seafood Unlimited called the office to let us know that they will be opening back up on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. Their operating hours would be 11 to 5/6 PM.

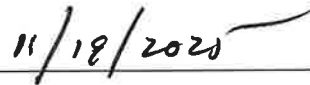
The board reviewed the inspector violation sheets. The Inspector reported on 79 routine inspections between October 15, 2025 through November 4, 2025. The Inspector also gave a report on the Ghouley Pub Crawl that took place on Saturday, October 25, 2025 on the Cumberland Downtown Mall. The Inspector stated that Merchant's Alley was a very busy area. There were so many people in the Alley that you could not even walk through at times. The Inspector also asked what was happening with Queen City Cravings. The Board requested we have licensees attend the next meeting to provide an update.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Farrell made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and unanimously approved by Commissioner Stafford.

The next regular meeting of the Board of License Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. in Room 100 of the Allegany County Office Complex.



Thomas Farrell, Chairman



Date