

**Public Business Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, December 18, 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 12/18/2025. 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

There were no additions or deletions to the 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. The Board of County Commissioners did not meet in Closed Session on December 4, 2025.

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

7. Public Hearing

- A. First Amendment to Code Home Rule Bill 2-25 - "An Act to Amend the Public Ethics Laws of Allegany County, Maryland" - T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney

The Commissioners voted to amend Code Home Rule Bill 2-25 at the previous public business meeting. This is the public hearing for that amendment. Attorney Beeman opened the floor for any public comments. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed and Attorney Beeman advised the Commissioners that this day was declared a Legislative Day and the Commissioners could take action to pass Code Home Rule Bill 2-25, as amended.

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. Action Agenda & Public Comment

- A. Ratification #15 of Emergency Procurements Pursuant to Res. 25-04, 25-08, & 25-10 - Adam Patterson, P.E., Director of Public Works

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 of 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 fifteenth round of emergency Procurements, which includes 10 projects, and are made part of the agenda packet.

The total amount for this round of Procurements is \$151,000, which takes the grand total to roughly \$7.2 million. 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.

- B. Agreement with the Community Trust Foundation on the creation of the Friends of the Allegany County Animal Shelter Fund - Jason Bennett, County Administrator

The creation of this fund will reestablish an avenue for community financial support to the shelter, under the oversight of the Community Trust Foundation. This allows the County to fully accept tax deductible donations, and utilize those funds as needed for both capital and operating purposes. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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.

9. Consent Agenda & Public Comment

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. Approve the Issuance of 2026 Licenses for Salvage Yard Operations

Each year the Commissioners must approve the license applicants. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

B. Authorize the Western Maryland Strong Fund Agreement Addendum

This will allow for us to transfer the administration of this fund from the Department of Social Services to the Western Maryland Long Term Recovery Group that is now working in the flood affected area. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

C. Execute an MOU with Maryland Department of Information Technology at the Tower Site along Bishop Walsh Road

This will be for the construction of a communications tower for the Maryland FiRST statewide public safety system, and this is at no cost to the County. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

D. Re-Appointment of Kathy Snyder and David Hall as Lay Board Members of the Allegany County Board of Appeals for Classified Employees

Both terms will be for three years. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

10. General Public Comment

No one signed up to speak during the General Public Comment section of the agenda.

11. Reports

A. County Administrator

Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanked all the County employees for their hard work.

B. County Attorney

Held an Ethics and Open Meetings Compliance training, and reported around 30 in-person attendees and 20 virtual. Thought the training went well, and was happy to see that many people attend.

12. Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Atkinson - Wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Happy Hanukkah, and any thing else anyone celebrates.
- Commissioner Brodie - Wished everyone very safe holidays, and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Urged people to get together with loved ones as much as they can.
- Commissioner Caporale - Lots of ups and downs this year, but overall a pretty positive year, and would like to see things continuing to move forward. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

13. Reminders/Upcoming Meetings

- A. NEXT MEETING - Thursday, January 15, 2026, 5:00 PM

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 05:08 PM.