

**Public Business Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, February 12, 2026 - 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 2/12/2026. Present: County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, County Commission President David J. Caporale, County Administrator Jason Bennett, County Attorney Lee Beeman. Excused: County Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.

3. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Caporale asked for a motion to add Item E to the Consent Agenda, Authorize the Advertisement of an RFP for the Operation and Maintenance of Baseball Fields at the Allegany County Fairgrounds. The RFP will run from Friday, February 13th to Friday, February 20th.

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

After the addition was added to the agenda, Commissioner Caporale asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

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

4. Statement of Closed Meeting

- A. The Board of County Commissioners did not meet in Closed Session on January 29, 2026.

5. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

- A. Approve the Public Work Session Minutes from January 15, 2026

Upon Motion made by County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, seconded by County Commission President David J. Caporale, and duly carried, the Minutes from the public work session held on January 15, 2026 were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

B. Approve the Public Business Meeting Minutes from January 29, 2026

Upon Motion made by County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, seconded by County Commission President David J. Caporale, and duly carried, the Minutes from the previous public business meeting were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

6. Presentations

7. Public Hearing

8. Action Agenda & Public Comment

A. Introduction - Code Home Rule Bill 1-26 - An Act to Repeal and Reenact Public Laws of Allegany County, Maryland, Section 461-9 - Prohibition of Traffic Law Photo-Monitoring Devices to Detect or Prove Traffic Law Violations - T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney

This is an introduction of legislation that would reverse the Board of County Commissioners' 2019 action to prohibit the use of photo-monitoring devices on County maintained roads in Allegany County, Maryland, and to provide certain criteria under which photo-monitoring devices may be used to monitor for violation of traffic laws.

One person signed up to speak on this topic:

- Glenn Stahlman of 11510 Cash Valley Rd - The speed limit on his road is 30 mph, and drivers exceed that every day. There is also a school on the road, and would like to have school zone signs and also is in favor of speed cameras on this road.

Attorney Beeman explained the process of enacting speed cameras, if the Commissioners choose to do so. Commissioner Caporale asked for a motion to approve the introduction of this code home rule bill, and also scheduled the hearing on this bill for the next public business meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026.

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

B. Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Execute an Assignment and Assumption Agreement with the Allegany County Animal Shelter Management Foundation, Inc. - T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney

This has been discussed during Work Sessions several times, and is the next procedural step in the dissolution of the Foundation's non-profit. Through the Foundation's by-laws, the Foundation is required to provide all assets to Allegany County Government in the event of dissolution so this is an agreement that the County has been working on with the Foundation that would provide for the assignment of those assets to Allegany County Government. This will allow the County to be assigned their vendor services and license agreements and to step into their position in those contracts. It provides for the Foundation to purchase an insurance tail that would provide coverage for any errors or omissions that happened during their time with the Animal Shelter, and also provides for the

Foundation's addendumification of the County in that event. There is not an exact amount available as of yet, but the general amount of total assets will be around \$500,000. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

C. Ratification #18 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 2-10 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 eighteenth round of emergency Procurements, which includes four contracts. The total of these is \$131,191, bringing the total to approximately \$8.3 million expended. There is still one contract to be invoiced. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

D. Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign the FY26 Transit Capital Grant Agreement - Adam Patterson, P.E., Director of Public Works

This is an annual process where Transit asks the Commissioners to authorize signatures on this agreement in order to accept the funding. The amount of Capital funding is \$200,000 and is for the mechanics and maintenance of the building. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

E. Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign the FY26 Transit Operating Grant Agreement - Adam Patterson, P.E., Director of Public Works

This is an annual process where Transit asks the Commissioners to authorize signatures on this agreement in order to accept the funding. The amount of Operating funding is \$1,847,911 and is for the Administration and Transit drivers. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

F. Authorize County Staff to Negotiate an Agreement with Mountain Maryland Ventures, LLC - Adam Patterson, P.E., Director of Public Works

The County previously advertised for proposals for three weeks and received one proposal. That proposal was from Mountain Maryland Ventures, LLC, who was the former promoter. Mr. Patterson asked the Commissioners to allow County staff to negotiate a contract with this promoter in order to get dates secured and out to the public as soon as possible. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

- G. Approve an Upgrade to the 911 Center Alarm Monitoring Receiver to Manitou Software in the amount of \$49,205 - Roger Bennett, Director of Emergency Services

The 911 Joint Communications Center operates an alarm receiver at both the primary and the back-up center. Over 200 different alarms come into this receiver, with over 1,000 alarm points. These alarms include a panic button at school, fire alarm, burglar alarm, etc. This alarm receiver history started about 20 years ago and has reached a point where the current system needs replacement. To replace them as they are now, the cost would be approximately \$50,000 per unit. In coordination with the contractor who manages these receivers, staff has come up with a solution that will only cost the County \$49,205. This solution includes sending information to a cloud source, which will eliminate the need for an alarm receiver or computer to log into the system in order to monitor the many alarms. To note, this will also be integrated with the current system for the cameras and door access. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

- H. Execute an MOU between Allegany County Department of Emergency Services 911 Joint Communications Center and the Mental Health Association of Frederick County 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (MHA) - Roger Bennett, Director of Emergency Services

The 911 Center takes in calls for service for fire, police and EMS every day and some of those calls need to be triaged out to a more qualified professional to handle certain types of calls. This will not cost the County anything and will hope to help decrease the amount of time spent on phone calls. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

9. Consent Agenda & Public Comment

Upon Motion by County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, seconded by County Commission President David J. Caporale, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved and adopted the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

- A. Adopt Resolution 26-01 Rules and Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County
This is an amendment to update the exempt employees as part of the Fair Labor Standards Act. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.
- B. Approve Modification of Memorandum of Understanding with Administrative Office of the Courts to Change Scope of Work
The MOU is from February of 2024, and the modification is for \$4,730 in leftover funds to be used for audio visual upgrades at the Circuit Court. This does not change the total amount of funding. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.
- C. Approve the Sponsorship Request for the Hooley Plunge in the amount of \$1,000
This will come from the Community Events Promotion account, and this event is set to take place on March 7th at Rocky Gap State Park. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.
- D. Approve the Re-appointment of Breann D'Atri to the Planning and Zoning Commission
This will be for another five-year term, which will expire February 16, 2031. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.
- E. Authorize the Advertisement of an RFP for the Operation and Maintenance of Baseball Fields at the Allegany County Fairgrounds (Item added at the start of the BOCC Public Business Meeting)

Proposals will be accepted starting Friday, February 13th through Friday, February 20th and once the proposals are received, the Commissioners will be made aware of the results. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

10. General Public Comment

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet:

- Alan Whitworth of 10710 Kreighbaum Rd in Corriganville - Asking for a six-month extension on his building permit due to difficulty with a contractor.

11. 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.

12. Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Atkinson - Blue Ridge Outdoor magazine released their "Best of" and Allegany County has several nominations, winners, and runner-ups.
- Commissioner Caporale - Will continue to discuss and work on budget concerns, focusing on flood relief funds and the disparity grant.

13. Reminders/Upcoming Meetings

- A. NEXT MEETING - Thursday, February 26, 2026, 5:00 PM

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 05:21 PM.