

**Public Business Meeting
Minutes**

Thursday, April 23, 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 4/23/2026. 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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda. Upon Motion made by County Commissioner William R. Atkinson, seconded by County Commission President David J. Caporale, 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 April 9, 2026.

5. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

A. Approve the Public Business Meeting Minutes from April 9, 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

A. Citation for WCBC Celebrating 50 Years - Dave Caporale, Commission President

The Board of County Commissioners publicly recognized WCBC radio station on their 50th anniversary. WCBC has served as a trusted voice and steadfast presence in Allegany County, delivering local news, sports, and community information with dedication. Since 1976, WCBC has remained deeply committed to informing, connecting, and supporting the citizens of our community, fostering partnerships, highlighting local achievements, and preserving the stories that define our region. The Allegany County Commissioners commend WCBC for five decades of service, and extend their sincere appreciation for their continued commitment to the people of Allegany County.

B. **Allegany County 2026 Transportation Priority Letter to MDOT - Whitney Patterson, Engineer, Department of Public Works**

Each year, the County is asked to submit a prioritized list of transportation-oriented capital projects for the six-year Consolidated Transportation Program. Allegany County coordinates with all municipalities and the local delegation for the purpose of requesting any new projects and/or updates to existing projects to be considered for the current year's priority letter. A Priority Meeting was held on March 25, 2026 for all stakeholders for the purpose of compiling a prioritized list of transportation projects within the given categories on the online MDOT Priority Letter Submission Form. Ms. Patterson presented this letter and the projects included (all attached to the agenda packet.) This item will be up put on the agenda for Commissioners' action at the next public business meeting.

7. Public Hearing

A. **Code Home Rule Bill 2-26 "An Act to Amend Chapter 461 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Allegany County, Maryland (2011 Edition as Amended) to Authorize the Use of Speed Monitoring System" (Introduced April 9, 2026) - T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney**

At the previous public business meeting, the Commissioners introduced Code Home Rule Bill 2-26, "An Act to Amend Chapter 461 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Allegany County, Maryland (2011 Edition as Amended) to Authorize the Use of Speed Monitoring Systems", and scheduled a public hearing for this meeting. Attorney Beeman asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on this bill. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed. The bill will be on the agenda for the next public business meeting for Commissioners' action.

8. Action Agenda & Public Comment

A. **Introduction - Code Home Rule Bill 3-26 "An Act to Amend the Minimal Annual Tax Levy Found in Articles VI and VIII of Chapter 146 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Allegany County, Maryland (2011 Edition As Amended)" - T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney**

Chapter 146, Article VI, Section 22 of the Allegany County Code sets the annual tax levy for the Cresaptown Fire Area to provide funding to operate and maintain the Cresaptown Fire Company. Chapter 146, Article VIII, Section 32 of the Allegany County Code sets the annual tax levy for the Cresaptown Ambulance Area to provide funding to operate and maintain the Cresaptown Ambulance Company. These sections provided a minimal annual tax levy. The Cresaptown Fire Company and Cresaptown Ambulance Company have historically requested respective annual levies for their area and company below the minimal annual tax levy. This update will remove the minimal annual tax levy and authorize the Cresaptown Fire Company and Cresaptown Ambulance Company to directly set their levy rates, consistent with other Public Safety Special Taxing Areas in Allegany County. Attorney Beeman advised the Commissioners action would need to be taken to introduce CHRB 3-26, and schedule a public hearing to be held during the next public business meeting. 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.

- B. Approve the Purchase of Two 2026 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles for the Sheriff's Office - Dave Morgan, Major, Allegany County Sheriff's Office

The Sheriff's office is in need of vehicles, and have identified two from a State bid with Hetrich Fleet Services, Inc. to be paid for out of the current budget. They have 11 vehicles that are over 10 years old with each one having over 200,000 miles on it. Funds are available within the existing budget, and Major Morgan would like to purchase two Ford police interceptors from Hetrich Fleet Services, Inc. The MSRP value of those vehicles are \$52,235 each, but because they will be purchased on the State bid, there is a discount of \$5,926 for each vehicle, which is a total discount of \$11,852. 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. Approve the Annual Renewal for the Wellpath Inmate Health Care Services Agreement 2026-2027 - Dan Lasher, Captain, Allegany County Detention Center

Wellpath provides 24/7 health services to the inmates of the Allegany County Detention Center as mandated by law. The ACDC has contracted with this company for over a decade. This does include an increase of 3.5% with a total contract amount of \$1,626,949.21 for the year. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

- D. Approve the Amendment to the Aramark Agreement for Food Services at the Allegany County Detention Center - Dan Lasher, Captain, Allegany County Detention Center

Aramark has submitted a request for a one-year extension on the County's Operating Agreement to continue dietary services at the Detention Center, commencing July 8, 2026 and ending July 7, 2027. This does include an approximate 3.9% to the price per meal. 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. Accept Grant Funding in the amount of \$54,055 from the State of Maryland for Innovative Cancer Screening Tests for Firefighters - Mike Salvadge, EMS Chief, Department of Emergency Services

Emergency Services has a high propensity to be exposed to carcinogens and different things that subject workers in this field to higher cancer rates. The Department of Emergency Services, in partnership with the Volunteer agencies, will be the entity that is acting as the "umbrella" for the program. Through the Health Department, a grant for cancer screening was applied for, and DES was awarded \$54,055 for these screenings. Those eligible are all volunteers and career emergency service workers that want to be screened. 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. Adopt Resolution 26-05 Rules and Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County - Adam Patterson, P.E., Director of Public Works

Requesting approval of Job Description for re-implementation of Utilities Division Chief position and revision to Grade Allocation Table listing the position at a Grade 114. This position has been vacant

since 2019, and roles of this position have been balanced between the Director of Public Works and a Utilities engineer. The goal would be to fill this position internally and not fill the position left vacant by the newly hired Utilities Division Chief. 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. Adopt Resolution 26-06 Transfer of Allegany County Detention Center Officers to the Correctional Officers' Pension System - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Requesting transfer of Detention Center Officers to the Correctional Officers' Pension System through Maryland State Retirement & Pension System, as of July 1, 2026. Legislation was introduced during 2026 session of the General Assembly, House Bill 1102 and Senate Bill 748, to be codified in the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Personnel and Pensions Article §31-2B-09, if enacted, transferring all eligible Correctional Center Officers into the Correctional Officers' Pension System. The enactment requires a petition with 60% of our officers signing for transition. Petition has been completed with 92% of officers requesting transition to the system. Correctional Officers' Pension System provides for a lesser, 5% employee contribution, 20-year eligibility for Normal Service Retirement (or age 55 with 5-10 years of service depending on hire date), and differing benefit calculation. 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. Adopt Resolution 26-07 Pick-Up Resolution for Payroll Reduction of Detention Center Officers to the Correctional Officers' Pension System - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Requesting approval of Resolution 26-07, Pick-Up Resolution for Payroll Reduction of Detention Center Officers to the Correctional Officers' Pension System. Resolution gives approval for Allegany County Board of County Commissioners to pick-up all of the mandatory employee contributions through payroll deduction, for our employees participating in Correctional Officers' Pension System through Maryland State Retirement and Pension System. 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.

I. Approve American Fidelity Assurance Company Termination of Services Effective July 1, 2026 - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Approval of Termination Letter, Ceasing Enrollment Processing and Voluntary Product Services from American Fidelity Assurance Company, effective July 1, 2026, due to ongoing processing and service issues. 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.

J. Approve the CareFirst Dental Termination Letter Effective July 1, 2026 - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Requesting approval of CareFirst Dental Termination Letter, Effective July 1, 2026, due to improved pricing through an alternate carrier and recent service issues. 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.

- K. Approve MetLife Application for Group Insurance, Dental and Voluntary Products Effective July 1, 2026 - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Requesting approval of MetLife Application for Group Insurance for Dental Insurance and Voluntary Products, effective July 1, 2026. CBIZ, our current insurance broker, obtained proposals for both Dental Insurance and Voluntary Products. MetLife package proposal provided overall the richest benefits at lowest costs in most all categories. This included Dental Insurance with identical coverage as prior plan, with an overall 13% reduction in costs for County as well as employee premiums. Voluntary Product offerings include Accident Insurance, Hospital Indemnity, Critical Illness, Supplemental Life, and Short Term & Long Term Disability--with employee cost reduction in most categories. The MetLife package will also include a 12% cost reduction for Basic Life and AD&D. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

- L. Approve the CareFirst Administrative Renewal Effective July 1, 2026 - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Requesting approval for the CareFirst Administrative Renewal for Medical and Pharmacy Administration, to be effective July 1, 2026. There will be no changes to Administrative processes and a 3% increase to base medical administrative fees, which is an approximate annual increase of \$9,101. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

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

- M. Approve the CareFirst Pharmacy Guarantees Proposal Effective July 1, 2026 - Kristi Liller, Director of Human Resources

Requesting approval of CareFirst Pharmacy Guarantees document for Prescription Plan for FY 2027. CareFirst is increasing the Prescription Rebate Guarantee Amount, which should result in potential savings for the County. 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. Authorize the Allegany County Utilities Division to Lease Three Ford F-350 Trucks from Enterprise

This is part of the County's ongoing program with Enterprise. The upfront cost and monthly lease will be paid from the Utilities Division operating budget in the amounts of \$9,250 one time per truck and \$1,125.10 monthly per truck. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

- B. Approve the Sponsorship Request from the UPMC Western Maryland Dialysis Center for the 2026 Western MD Kidney Walk in the amount of \$300

This event will be held on May 31, 2026 at Allegany College of Maryland. No one signed up to speak on this agenda item.

10. General Public Comment

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet:

- Sean Major of 95 Ormand St in Frostburg - Concerned with Opioid Restitution Fund and how this money is spent.

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 - 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. Anticipated BOCC Public Work Session - Thursday, May 7, 2026 (Details and Time TBA)

B. BOCC Public Business Meeting - Thursday, May 7, 2026, 5:00pm

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 05:45 PM.