

October 6, 2016

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Allegany County was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, at 5:00 p.m. on the above date. The following were present: Commissioner Jacob C. Shade; Commissioner William R. Valentine; County Attorney William M. Rudd; and County Administrator David A. Eberly. The following business was transacted:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Danny Williams.

MOTION #1

Commissioner Valentine explained that Mr. Ade Marcus, scheduled to present Item 2 – Columbia Nursing Assistant Academy, had not yet arrived. Mr. Marcus was traveling from outside the area. Commissioner Valentine asked that Item 2 be bypassed until after Mr. Marcus' arrival at the meeting. There were no further additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOTION #2

Upon Motion by Commissioner Valentine, seconded by Commissioner Shade, and Motion carried, the Commissioners approved the minutes of the September 29, 2016, public business meeting.

Before continuing on to the Presentations portion of the Agenda, Commissioner Shade said that County Attorney Rudd had an announcement. Attorney Rudd read a Statement Regarding the Closed Session held by the County Commissioners on Thursday, September 29, 2016, at 3 p.m. in Room 408. A copy of the Statement he read is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Before reading the Statement, Attorney Rudd explained that such a statement is required by the Open Meetings Law.

PRESENTATIONS

Item 1 – General Election 2016 – Diane L. Loibel, Administrator of Elections, discussed the upcoming General Election. She announced that the deadline to register to vote for the upcoming Presidential General Election is October 18, 2016, at 9 p.m. Mrs. Loibel added that this is also the deadline to make changes to voter's registration; however, if a voter is not able to register by October 18, then the voter can go to the Early Voting Center only, with a document to prove residence, such as a driver's license, MVA identification card, utility bill, bank statement, or other government document, and register during the early voting period.

Mrs. Loibel announced that Early Voting begins on Thursday, October 27, 2016, and runs through Thursday, November 3, 2016, in Room 100 of the County Office Complex. Hours will be from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

General Election Day will be Tuesday, November 8, 2016, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Commissioner Shade thanked Mrs. Loibel for her presentation.

Item 2 – Columbia Nursing Assistant Academy – Ade Marcus. This Item was presented near the end of the meeting, following Commissioner Valentine's remarks.

PUBLIC HEARING

Item 3 – Public Hearing – Possible Action – Code Home Rule Bill 5-16 “LaVale Sanitary District - Mechanic Street Sewer Improvements Project Bond Authorization” – Jason M. Bennett, CPA, Director of Finance, reminded the Commissioners that last week Code Home Rule Bill 5-16 “LaVale Sanitary District – Mechanic Street Sewer Improvements Project Bond Authorization” was introduced, for a \$978,000 bond with USDA and interim financing for LaVale Sanitary. Mr. Bennett pointed out again to the Commissioners that this is not County debt, but the County is simply guaranteeing the debt for LaVale Sanitary Commission, and it will be LaVale Sanitary's debt.

Mr. Bennett told the Commissioners that after this evening's hearing on Code Home Rule Bill 5-16, if there are no comments, hopefully the Commissioners present at the meeting will take a vote on the Bill. He explained that if the Commissioners did take action on Code Home Rule Bill 5-16 at this evening's meeting, the Bond Bill would become effective November 20, 2016, and closing could hopefully take place shortly afterward on the interim financing. Mr. Bennett pointed out that the money would go straight to LaVale Sanitary District to help them complete the Mechanic Street Sewer Improvements Project.

The hearing was opened to comment. Commissioner Shade asked if anyone had any comment regarding Code Home Rule Bill 5-16. No one spoke.

Mr. Bennett then asked if the Commissioners were willing to take a vote on the Bond Bill. Commissioner Valentine made a Motion that the Commissioners adopt Code Home Rule Bill 5-16 "LaVale Sanitary District – Mechanic Street Sewer Improvements Project Bond Authorization". Commissioner Shade seconded the Motion. Motion passed.

ACTION AGENDA

Item 4 – The Greater Cumberland Raceway – Board of County Commissioners to approve an agreement with TGCR, a Maryland non-profit organization, to promote dirt track racing at the Allegany County Fairgrounds from April 1, 2017 to October 31, 2017 – William R. Valentine, Commissioner, started by acknowledging the many racing fans present in the back of the meeting room. He asked one of them, Todd Brode, if he would like to come forward, but he declined. Commissioner Valentine reminded everyone that the County thought they had a promoter for the Racetrack last season, but that fell through. He brought up the study that was done on the Fairgrounds, in which the consultant suggested removing the speedway, which upset a lot of people. Commissioner Valentine explained that he has been working the last four years to try to find a good promoter for the Racetrack. He commented that as a former racer himself, he knows what a benefit the Racetrack can be. Commissioner Valentine also remarked on the strong public support for racing at the Fairgrounds.

Commissioner Valentine then explained that Mr. Todd Brode has stepped forward, and that all the County Commissioners have to do is sign a contract, and Mr. Brode will start work on the Cumberland Speedway this coming weekend.

Commissioner Shade wished Mr. Brode the best of luck, and commented that he has heard only good things about him and his organization.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Valentine, seconded by Commissioner Shade, and duly carried, the Commissioners accepted, approved, and agreed to sign the agreement with TGCR to promote dirt track racing at the Allegany County Fairgrounds from April 1, 2017 to October 31, 2017.

Item 5 – Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Assistance Grant Agreement – Board of County Commissioners to accept and authorize the County Administrator to sign the FY 2017 Public Transportation Operating Grant Agreement. This grant agreement is part of Allegany County Transit's FY 2017 budget and will provide up to \$528,837.00 in federal funds, \$387,795.00 in state funds, to be matched with up to \$478,817.00 in local funds – Roy S. Cool, Planner, explained that the Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Assistance Grant Agreement was simply the annual funding for both Allegany County Transit and the All-Trans System, for the operations, for the current fiscal year.

Commissioner Valentine moved that the Commissioners accept and authorize the County Administrator to sign the FY 2017 Public Transportation Operating Grant Agreement, which the agreement is part of Allegany County Transit's FY 2017 budget and will provide up to \$528,837.00 in federal funds, \$387,795.00 in state funds, to be matched with up to \$478,817.00 in local funds. Commissioner Shade seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

As recommended by the County Administrator

Upon Motion by Commissioner Shade, seconded by Commissioner Valentine, and Motion carried, the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator is adopted.

Item 6 – Purchase New Dump Truck for Allegany County Roads Division Bid Award – Board of County Commissioners approved the contract for the purchase of one new dump truck to Beltway International, 1800 Sulphur Springs Road, Baltimore, Maryland, in the amount of \$132,068.00.

Item 7 – Maryland Highway Safety Grant – Board of County Commissioners authorized the Allegany County Sheriff's Office to accept grant funding in the amount of \$9,300.00 to be used for off-duty deputies patrolling state highways in Allegany County for traffic infractions and for DUI sobriety check points. This is a 100% total funded grant.

County Administrator Eberly announced that he would be taking steps in the coming months to restructure the County's Department of Economic & Community Development. He spoke from a prepared news release, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of these minutes. Mr. Eberly also offered copies of the news release to anyone interested.

Commissioners' statements, comments, recognition

Commissioner Valentine reported that it's been a good week for Allegany County, beginning with Monday morning when he met with Sheriff Robertson, Barb Buehl, Ron McCoury of DelFest, and Stan Strickland, promoter of DelFest. Commissioner Valentine said that the DelFest people want to help fund the Sheriff's programs on opioid abuse in Allegany County. They are a group who give back to the County very well every year.

Commissioner Valentine reported that later in the day on Monday, he and Mr. Eberly met with Todd Brode to finalize the racing contract, and then he had lunch with Mr. Ade Marcus, who had hoped to be present at the meeting. Commissioner Valentine explained that Mr. Marcus is opening private nursing assistants school in downtown Cumberland. He remarked that this will fill a real void the County has, because it will train people to go into elderly residents' homes to assist them with taking their medication.

On Wednesday, Commissioner Valentine made contact with a gentleman who wants to do a major economic development project in the County, and he forwarded that information to Jeff Barclay. Mr. Barclay has followed up on it, and more information will be forthcoming.

Commissioner Valentine then reported that although there are frequent complaints from the public that there are no good jobs available in Allegany County, on October 13, 2016 (next Thursday), from 9 a.m. until noon, there will be a job fair at Allegany College, with over 50 companies participating and looking for employees. Some of the jobs would be with Allegany College of Maryland, Allegany Health Nursing, Devlin Manor, Egle Nursing Home, the Federal Correctional Institute, and many others.

Commissioner Valentine concluded his remarks by calling forward Mr. Ade Marcus, who presented Item 2 – Columbia Nursing Assistant Academy.

Columbia Nursing Assistant Academy – Mr. Ade Marcus discussed a four-week program for nursing assistants training, which will be conducted at 138 North Mechanic Street, Cumberland. He provided some details about the training. Both day and evening classes will be offered, and those completing the program would be able to work at a hospital as a tech, in the community assisting the elderly, in a group home setting as an aide, or in a nursing home. Skills taught include taking blood pressure, how to do personal care, and to dispense medication. Mr. Marcus pointed out that in the State of Maryland, a medication technician cannot dispense medication without certification.

Commissioner Shade thanked Mr. Marcus for his presentation. He told him that the Commissioners looked forward to working with him, and remarked that Commissioner Valentine has spoken highly of him and his Nursing Assistant Academy. Commissioner Shade added that there would be an opportunity following this meeting for anyone interested in the Columbia Nursing Assistant Academy to ask questions.

Commissioner Shade reported that the Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation was in Allegany County today, and commented on the complete turn-around regarding the relationship between the County and State Highway Administration compared to several years ago. Commissioner Shade stated that the Hogan Administration has been wonderful to work with, and that projects have come through the pipeline much more quickly. He also reported that Governor Hogan would be coming to Allegany County next Friday (October 14, 2016).

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet (No one signed up to speak at this meeting)

Reminders/Upcoming Meetings

Next Public Business Meeting – Thursday, October 20, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Jacob C. Shade, President

True Copy
Attest:

Cynthia A. Young
Recording Secretary

STATEMENT REGARDING THE CLOSED SESSION
HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016, AT 3:00 PM, ROOM 408

The Board of County Commissioners, at a meeting convened on Thursday, September 29, 2016, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., voted unanimously to go into a closed session. The meeting time and place and the purpose of the meeting were provided in a public notice distributed on September 27, 2016. The notice was provided in the same manner, and also to the same entities, as receive the Commissioners' regular business meeting notices.

The meeting was closed in accordance with the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland Section 3-305, and the purposes for which the meeting was closed were as follows:

1. To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State (General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b)(4)).
2. To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees or officials over whom it has jurisdiction (General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b)(1)).
3. Consultation with counsel to obtain legal advice concerning the matters referenced in numbers 1 and 2 above (General Provisions Article Section 3-305 (b)(7))

The Commissioners first discussed the intention of a company to potentially locate in a building owned by the County in one of its industrial parks. No action was taken by the Commissioners on this particular matter.

The Commissioners also discussed a personnel matter concerning a contract between a County employee and Allegany County, and further discussed possible methods of filling a vacancy in a County management position. The Commissioners voted unanimously to direct Administrator Eberly on how to advertise to fill the vacancy.

There was no further business to be conducted in the closed session, and therefore, upon motion by Commissioner Brodie, seconded by Commissioner Valentine, the Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn the closed session at 4:15 p.m.

Those persons present during the entire closed session were Commission President Jacob C. Shade; Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.; Commissioner William R. Valentine; County Administrator David A. Eberly; County Attorney William M. Rudd; and recording secretary Cindy Young.

Present only for discussion of the first item was Jeffrey S. Barclay, Economic Development Specialist. Present only for discussion of the second item was Brian P. Westfall, Director of Human Resources.



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Jacob C. Shade, *President*
Creade V. Brodie, Jr.
William R. Valentine

ALLEGANY COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASE October 6, 2016

David A. Eberly, *County Administrator*
William M. Rudd, *County Attorney*

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Allegany County Department of Economic & Community Development To Restructure

Allegany County Administrator David A. Eberly announced today that he is in the process of restructuring the County's Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD). The restructuring will involve existing staff as well as the addition of new personnel.

A key factor necessitating a change is due to the loss of the County's Senior Project Manager in the spring of 2015 due to retirement. Since that time, the duties of that position were assumed by current DECD Director Matthew W. Diaz. Following months of extended discussions and careful evaluation, Diaz has opted to continue overseeing the County's facilities and lease management duties and he will step down as Director on November 1, 2016.

"The overall size of the County's economic development portfolio is expanding. We currently have eight buildings encompassing over 1.1 million square feet, and 800 acres of industrial/business park land. You can only juggle so many responsibilities at one time," commented Diaz. "After 10 plus years as Director, it's time for me to step aside and assist the next leader in our organization as we prepare for the future," added Diaz. "The role of asset management is vital to the County's business development and retention needs. I respect and support Matt's decision to want to focus on this aspect of the County's operations exclusively in the future. Without question, the Department's needs in this area will be in very capable hands," stated Eberly.

Diaz has worked for Allegany County since 1990. He came to the DECD in March 2003 and has been Director since June 2006. He received his Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) certification in 2008 from the International Economic Development Association. Eberly added, "Matt is a valuable asset to the County and his mastery in the field of economic development has brought the County many successes over the last 10 years."

Until such time as the County fills the position with a permanent hire, Economic Development Specialist Jeffrey S. Barclay will serve as Acting Director, effective November 1.

In addition to searching for a new Director, the County began the process of advertising for an Economic Development Specialist in September to support the County's growing needs in the area of prospect development and location analysis. The County hopes to fill this position by the end of the year.

The Board of County Commissioners President Jacob C. Shade added, "We thank Matt for his service as Director of DECD and his dedication to promoting business in our community. These changes allow us to provide the most efficient and effective economic development efforts moving forward."

The Allegany County Department of Economic & Community Development is dedicated to job creation, business growth, small business development and industry diversification through business retention and expansion, infrastructure development and housing, workforce development, and offering a unique range of facility options for a wide array of business ventures including: advanced manufacturing, traditional industries, entrepreneurial development, information technology and tourism.