

January 17, 2019

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 5:00 p.m. on the above date. The following were present: Commissioner Jacob C. Shade; Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.; Commissioner David J. Caporale; County Administrator Brandon S. Butler; and County Attorney William M. Rudd. The following business was transacted:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

#### **MOTION**

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

#### **MOTION**

Upon Motion by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and Motion carried, the Commissioners approved the Minutes of the January 10, 2019, public business meeting.

#### **STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS** **January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018** **President Jacob C. Shade**

Jacob C. Shade, President of the Board of Allegany County Commissioners, read into the record the State of the County Address for the calendar year 2018. A copy of the State of the County Address is attached to and made a part of these Minutes.

#### **PRESENTATION**

**Item 1 – Retirement Recognition – Barry R. Levine, Assistant County Attorney.** Commissioner Shade explained that because Mr. Levine was not able to be present at this meeting, this Presentation would be moved to a future public business meeting.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

As recommended by the County Administrator

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

**Item 2 – Maryland Institution for Emergency Medical Services Systems Active Assailant Preparedness Coordination –** Board of County Commissioners authorized the purchase order issued by MIEMSS in the amount of \$23,894.52 as well as the modification to budget 1382 to reflect this grant. The grant funds will be utilized to obtain tactical gear and training supplies in support of EMS response capability for active assailant incidents.

**Item 3 – Recycling and Solid Waste Hauling Contracts Request to Advertise –** Board of County Commissioners authorized the Department of Public Works to advertise the request to bid for recycling and solid waste hauling contracts for fiscal year 2020-2022.

**Item 4 – Solid Waste Management Board Re-Appointments –** Board of County Commissioners approved the re-appointments of the following individuals to serve a two-year term ending January 31, 2021, and also renewed the permanent members to the Solid Waste Management Board: Steve Young, Paul Kahl, Brian Dicken, Misty Joy, Wally High, Joseph Stafford, Stuart Czapski, Maureen Brewer, Raquel Ketterman, Terri Hast, David DeWitt, Jon Ickes, Doug McKenzie, Rich Collins, Richard Soderman, Agnes Yount, Woody Getz, Steven Guinn, Robin Paulman, Robert Boyce, John Wardzinski, Paul High and Danny Bloskey.

#### **Commissioners' statements, comments, recognition –**

**Commissioner David J. Caporale** agreed with the sense of optimism reflected in President Shade's State of the County Address and thanked him for that. He remarked that he was also looking forward to this new year coming up.

Commissioner Shade told Commissioner Caporale that the Board of Commissioners is happy to have him and added that it will be exciting to work together with the newly elected public officials at all levels of government.

**Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.** expressed his agreement with the remarks made by Commissioners Caporale and Shade. He added that he couldn't wait for the County's construction season, and that the Commissioners and County staff members would soon be heading to PACE

with Public Works' Director Paul Kahl's list of projects for which to pursue funding. Commissioner Brodie commented on how important the funding brought in through PACE is to Allegany County.

Commissioner Brodie also asked Finance Director Jason Bennett to keep in mind, as he works on the budget, to, if at all possible, moving forward, continue the annual reduction of real estate property tax by one-tenth of a cent.

**Commissioner Jacob C. Shade** pointed out that the Commissioners' meeting schedule will be off a little bit because of PACE next week. He explained that the Commissioners and County staff have a lot of meetings scheduled with funding agencies. Commissioner Shade commented that hopefully some of the County's federal funding partners will be present, in light of the Federal Government shutdown. He also remarked on the great deal of funding the County has realized through PACE. Commissioner Shade acknowledged the County's Public Works Department for their work to obtain the funding, and thanked Commissioner Brodie for keeping the Board of County Commissioners up to date on project and funding issues.

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

**Reminders/Upcoming Meetings –**

**Next Public Business Meeting** – Thursday, February 7, 2019, 5:00 p.m.

**Announcement** – Allegany County Government Schedule (See News Release)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

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Jacob C. Shade, President

True Copy  
Attest:

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Cynthia A. Young  
Recording Secretary



# ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

## The Board of County Commissioners

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Jacob C. Shade, *President*  
Creade V. Brodie, Jr.  
David J. Caporale

Bandon S. Butler, Esq., *County Administrator*  
William M. Rudd, *Attorney*

### **Allegany County Government**

#### **State of the County**

**January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018**

2018 was a year of change and transition for Allegany County Government. As we look toward 2019, we are building on the framework that was laid and look forward to new possibilities in the upcoming year.

#### **New Initiatives**

There have been a number of new initiatives undertaken by Allegany County Government in 2018.

The Board of County Commissioners initiated the reorganization and restructuring of local government. Each move was made to incentivize those who invest in Allegany County. Our goal is simple: provide a partnership to those who want to grow in Allegany and not meet them with red tape.

The County was the first in the State of Maryland to follow Governor Larry Hogan's lead in establishing a Regulatory Reform Commission. That Commission, which is soon to be concluding its work, has been tasked to streamline processes and protocols relating to permitting, land development, and planning. Along with our new Department of Planning and Growth, the County is striving to decrease bureaucratic hurdles that stand in the way of progress in our community.

The Board of County Commissioners also established the Office of Community Services under the direction of the County Administrator to coordinate special projects, workforce development initiatives, and to apply for grant funding.

The Commissioners' Fellowship Program, a summer internship that provides opportunities for students from Frostburg State and Allegany College of Maryland, was launched. Its first two participants successfully completed the program and now have full-time employment. Carter Imes is now working in Annapolis during the legislative session for Delegate Wendell Beitzel, while Sam Vega is working for Allegany College of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University.

We welcomed Governor Hogan and others as the long-awaited new Allegany High School opened to students on Haystack Mountain last fall.

### **Financial Highlights**

The Board of County Commissioners remains vigilant in ensuring fiscal responsibility. The County's commitment to sound financial practices was recently affirmed by S&P Global Ratings and Moody's Investor Services, as S&P Global Ratings revised its outlook from "stable" to "positive" on Allegany County's general obligation debt.

While continuing to ensure that county government lives within its means, the Board of County Commissioners, for the eighth consecutive year, reduced the real estate property tax by 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a cent by the adoption of the FY 2019 budget.

The County also maintains a healthy fund balance for operating expenses and unforeseen issues, while continuing to invest in important community projects. In December, the County went to the bond market to obtain \$10.9 million for key investments including the Allegany College of Maryland Tech Building, various county roads projects, and important investments in the County's Department of Emergency Services.

### **Economic Development & Tourism**

2018 brought with it good economic development news with the expansions of Schroeder Industries and Manticorp, LLC. Of particular note, this is Schroeder's fourth expansion in Allegany County.

The County is also working with Thomas P. Miller & Associates to develop a comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan that is being jointly developed with a steering committee of state, county and municipal leaders. That report will be made public in the upcoming months.

Western Maryland WORKS, Allegany County's first makerspace, was announced. This 32,000 + square foot facility will be a place for business creation and expansion, where entrepreneurs are able to fabricate, design, and innovate.

Additionally, tourism continues to be a key driver of our local economy and our tourism team continues to showcase our region and work as an economic development tool. To that end, Allegany County Tourism won the Best Website Award from the Maryland Tourism Coalition for the new website.

### **Public Works**

The Great Allegheny Passage continued to be a beacon for tourism in Allegany County. Undertaken by the Public Works Department, the lighting of the Borden Tunnel improved the trail experience for all.

Our Public Works Department continued to provide key services to a large number of our citizens. Eighty-five percent of county residents now have access to public water

and public sewer. The Utilities Division maintained 155 miles of water and 195 miles of sewer underground pipes. The Roads Division managed 533 miles of county roads in this mountainous 425 square mile terrain. Allegany County Transit traveled 210,000 service miles in FY 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018). Public transportation is an important workforce development service.

### **Partnerships and Relationships**

Allegany County continues to benefit from the positive relationship with the Hogan Administration. We look forward to continuing that relationship over the next four years.

Allegany County Government will continue to partner with Allegany College of Maryland and Frostburg State University to provide opportunities for our citizens as demonstrated by Western Maryland WORKS and the Small Business Development Center.

With new leadership in place, Allegany County Government and the City of Cumberland are working together. We welcome Mayor Morriss and the newly installed members of the Cumberland City Council and the newly elected Board of Education members.

### **In 2019**

In the upcoming year, we will continue to build relationships, break down barriers, and work toward our common goals. We have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming year, and believe there is much reason for optimism.

Sincerely,

The Board of County Commissioners

Jacob C. Shade, President

Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Commissioner

David J. Caporale, Commissioner