

January 13, 2022

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 Jason M. Bennett; and County Attorney T. Lee Beeman, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

#### **MOTION**

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

#### **MOTION**

Upon Motion by Commissioner Brodie, and seconded by Commissioner Caporale, the Minutes of the December 16, 2021, public business meeting were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

#### **PRESENTATION**

**Item 1 – Mountain Maryland Trails – Letter of Support for George's Creek Trail** – Larry Brock, Laura Freeman Legge, and Zach Bittinger. Commissioner Shade introduced Westernport Mayor Laura Freeman Legge, who came forward to speak about the Letter of Support for George's Creek Trail. Mayor Legge thanked the Commissioners and explained that Mr. Larry Brock and Mr. Zach Bittinger were regrettably not able to be present this evening. She then read the letter of support into the record; a copy of this letter is attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Mayor Legge gave the letter to Commissioner Shade, and she expressed appreciation for the work that the Commissioners and County staff have done with Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on this project. Commissioner Shade thanked Mayor Legge for her time and for representing the Mayors of the County's municipalities in this matter. Mayor Legge pointed out that she was also present as Secretary of Mountain Maryland Trails.

Commissioner Brodie also thanked Mayor Legge and asked her to let the Commissioners know if they can be of any further assistance on this project.

#### **ACTION AGENDA**

**Item 2 – Allegany County Animal Shelter Management Foundation, Inc. Operating Agreement** – Board of County Commissioners to approve the Allegany County Animal Shelter Management Foundation, Inc. Operating Agreement for a ten-year term – Jacob C. Shade, President, commented that this Agreement has been in the works for some time, and that the Commissioners take great pride in its completion. Commissioner Shade explained that the Operating Agreement is a ten-year agreement and will keep the Allegany County Animal Shelter as a no-kill shelter for those ten years. He added that the Agreement includes a truck to be provided for the Shelter's use, and also addresses funding, and he provided some brief details about the funding terms. Commissioner Shade acknowledged the good work done by the staff at the Shelter, and also thanked County Attorney Beeman for his work in getting the Agreement done.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Brodie, seconded by Commissioner Caporale, and duly carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Allegany County Animal Shelter Management Foundation, Inc. Operating Agreement for a ten-year term.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

As recommended by the County Administrator

Before action was taken on the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Brodie asked that Item 5 be broken out and voted on separately, as he would prefer to abstain from voting on an action that in any way involves LaVale Sanitary Commission, by whom he is employed.

Upon Motion by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Items 3 and 4 of the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

Upon Motion by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Shade, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Item 5 of the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

**Vote on Item 5:**

**Commissioner Caporale: Aye**  
**Commissioner Brodie: Abstain**  
**Commissioner Shade: Aye**

Upon Motion by Commissioner Brodie, seconded by Commissioner Caporale, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Items 6 through 10 of the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

**Item 3 – Encroachment Agreement – Kelly Road Recycling Relocation** – Board of County Commissioners approved the execution of an Encroachment Agreement with the Mayor and City Council of Cumberland to allow the County to relocate its recycling area from Riverside Avenue to Kelly Road, and authorized the President of the County Commissioners to sign.

**Item 4 – Purchase of Used Bobcat Loader** – Board of County Commissioners authorized the Department of Public Works to purchase one used Bobcat L65 Loader from American Rent All in the amount of \$69,010.

**Item 5 – Braddock Run – Jennings Run Sewage Conveyance Improvements Locust Grove Force Main and LaVale Water Main Replacement Project Bid Award** – Board of County Commissioners approved the award of the Braddock Run-Jennings Run Sewage Conveyance Improvements Locust Grove Force Main and LaVale Water Main Replacement Project to Carl Belt, Inc., Cumberland, Maryland, in the amount of \$6,622,397.25, and authorized the President of the County Commissioners to sign any and all necessary contract agreements and funding documents.

**Item 6 – Combined County Criminal Investigation (C3I) Unit American Rescue Plan Funding** – Board of County Commissioners approved funding from the American Rescue Plan funds in the amount of \$25,000 for the C3I unit to purchase technology and software to improve their operational capacity and mitigate the spread of Covid-19.

**Item 7 – Cumberland Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Appointment** – Board of County Commissioners approved the appointment of Nathan D. Price, Senior Project Manager, to become a member on the Cumberland Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

**Item 8 – Laboratory Services Agreement with Aeon Technologies, LLC** – Board of County Commissioners authorized the President of the County Commissioners to execute a Laboratory Services Agreement with Aeon Technologies, LLC, for the purpose of providing drug screening services.

**Item 9 – Region 1 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council Appointments** – Board of County Commissioners approved the re-appointments of Alison Robinson, Kathy Condor and Todd Dyche to the Region 1 Emergency Services Advisory Council. Their terms will expire January 15, 2025. Also, appointed Wendy Helms and Shannon Adams whose terms will expire January 15, 2025, appointed Jennifer Ritchie whose term will expire January 15, 2024, and appointed Scott Flaskamp whose term will expire January 15, 2023.

**Item 10 – Community Promotions – Hogs and Patriots Foundation Recruitment Day** – Board of County Commissioners authorized the Finance Department to remit \$1,000 from the Community Promotions Account to support the Hogs and Patriots Foundation to hold a Recruitment Day for Local Fire Departments, EMS Crews, Law Enforcement, and Military Recruiters to come and set up their equipment and provide demonstrations of what they do to try and fill some of the necessary vacancies these agencies/departments have.

**County Administrator Jason Bennett** had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

**County Attorney Lee Beeman** had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

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

**Commissioner David Caporale** had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

**Commissioner Creade Brodie** had no further comments to add at this evening's meeting.

**Commissioner Jacob Shade** thanked Cumberland CEDC for inviting the County to be on their Board.

Commissioner Shade also stated that in spite of talk about shutdowns and mandates regarding Covid, Allegany County Government has no plans for any further restrictions or lockdowns. He urged everyone to be smart, careful, and safe.

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

**Reminders/Upcoming Meetings –**

**Next Public Business Meeting** – Thursday, January 27, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

**Announcement** – Christmas Tree Recycling Sites (See News Release)

**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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob C. Shade, President

True Copy  
Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia A. Young  
Recording Secretary

Town of Barton	P.O. Box 153	Barton, MD 21521
City of Cumberland	57 N Liberty Street	Cumberland, MD 21502
City of Frostburg	59 E Main St	Frostburg, MD 21532
Town of Lonaconing	35 E Main St	Lonaconing, MD 21539
Town of Luke	510 Grant Street	Luke, MD 21540
Town of Midland	19823 Big Ln Ave	Midland, MD 21532
Town of Westernport	107 Washington Street	Westernport, MD 21562

January 13, 2022

Superintendent Maryland Parks Service Nita Settina  
 The Honorable Jacob Shade, President  
 The Honorable Creade Brodie, Jr.  
 The Honorable David Caporale

Dear Ms. Nita Settina, Mr. Shade, Mr. Brodie, and Mr. Caporale:

The municipalities in Allegany County are collectively writing this letter to support Maryland DNR's commitment to developing a 7.54-mile trail in the former rail corridor along George's Creek, which was filed for abandonment in 2020.

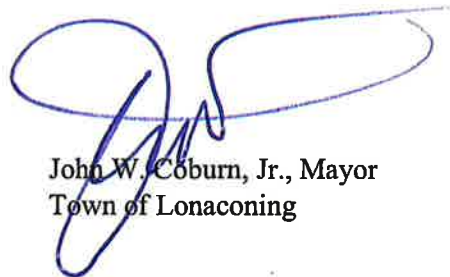
A rail-trail along George's Creek would enhance recreational activities for our residents and boost economic development opportunities in the western half of Allegany County.

We appreciate the work that Allegany County and Maryland DNR have already done on this project. We continue to show our support for the completion of a recreational trail along George's Creek.

Respectfully,



Daniel A. Colmer, Mayor  
 Town of Barton

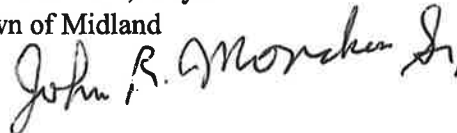


John W. Coburn, Jr., Mayor  
 Town of Lonaconing



Ray Morriss, Mayor  
 City of Cumberland

John Monahan, Mayor  
 Town of Midland




W. Robert Flanigan, Mayor  
 City of Frostburg

Edward Clemons, Jr., Mayor  
 Town of Luke




Laura Freeman Legge, Mayor  
 Town of Westernport