

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY**  
109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

**MINUTES**  
**January 8, 2019**

**Present:** President Larry C. Porter, Wilbur Levensgood Jr., Vice President; Daniel J. Franklin; Commissioner; Chief of Staff Sara Visintainer and County Attorney, Heather Price

President Porter called for Public Comment and there was none.

**Introduction of Jamie Beechey, Deputy Director, Recreation and Parks:** Sue Simmons, Director, Recreation and Parks, introduced Ms. Beechey to the Commissioners. Ms. Simmons stated that the Recreation and Parks team is excited to work with Ms. Beechey, who comes from a background that will help the department in many positive ways. Ms. Beechey stated that she was ready to get to work and she looks forward to working with the Board in the future.

**Discussion of State Wide 9-1-1 Commission Report & Updated Legislation:** Bryan Ebling, Director, Caroline County Emergency Services Department stated that the State of Maryland will be moving forward with legislation based on a study of what it would take to implement next generation 9-1-1 (NextGen 911). He stated that a panel of 22 people has been meeting to move forward with this project, that will essentially bring 911 into the digital and fiber age. This is an extremely costly undertaking, and much of the burden falls to county governments, who operate the majority of 911 centers in the state. Mr. Ebling stated that the legislation will propose an increase in the 911 fees, and that the fee be charged on all lines, including cell phones, instead of each account. He stated that an adjustment in fees will help cut cost due to the decline in collections since cell phone lines are used more than land lines in the County. He explained that the cost currently is 25 cents per line. Mr. Ebling stated that he would keep the Board informed on the latest updates and movement this upcoming legislative session.

**Consent Agenda: the following items were approved by unanimous consent**

- Memorandum of Understanding with State Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services Regarding Deductions from Inmate Earnings
- State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) Form
- Resolution #2019-01, Amendment to Caroline County Personnel Rules and Regulations, Position Vacancy Announcements
- Resolution #2019-02, Amendment to Caroline County Personnel Rules and Regulations, Class Specification for Caroline County Department of Planning & Codes
- Resolution #2019-03, Amendment to Caroline County Personnel Rules and Regulations, Grievance Appeal Panel
- State Department of Natural Resources Waterway Improvement Fund Grant Acceptance Agreement for Ganey's Wharf Dredging Project
- P.O #2019-277 and Accompanying Contract, CATO, Inc., Diesel Fuel & Gasoline, \$609,300
- P.O #2019-288, Dissen & Juhn LLC, for Ganey's Wharf Dredging, \$97,433
- P.O #2019-305 and Accompanying Contract, Davenport & Company LLC, Software and Installation for Planning and Codes, Total \$76,035.00
- Master Memorandum of Understanding, Caroline County and Maryland Department of Transportation, Federal Aid Project Guidelines and Working Agreement
- Designation of Alternate Employee Advisory Board Member for Employee Grievance Panel – Kaczynski

**Acting County Administrator's Report:**

- Ms. Visintainer stated that the office of Tourism will be audited every three years per requested by the Board to save funds. The Commissioners agreed with this process.
- She asked the Board if they wanted to comment on Dorchester County's railroad project, which would have ownership on piece that are located in Caroline County. The Commissioners stated that they did not feel it necessary to comment further on the project and would let their previous comments stand.
- The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board are looking to increase the permit fees for the county boat ramp. She stated that the Board recommends an increase to \$25.00 for a yearly permit, and \$10.00 for daily access. The Commissioners asked for this discussion to be added to their upcoming work session for further discussion.

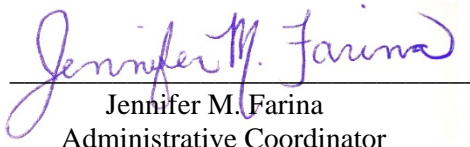
**Commissioners Open Discussion Period:** The Commissioners stated that they enjoyed the holidays off and enjoyed family time. They stated that they attended the latest Maryland Associations of Municipalities (MACo) conferences and had valuable conversation with elected officials and peers.

On motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners convened in closed session for the following discussions: Legal Advice Regarding Pending Litigation, Authority: 2014 Md. Code, State Government 3-305(b)(7); Discussion of Personnel Matter, Authority: 2014, Md. Code, State Government 3-305(b)(1); and the Discussion of the Hiring of an At-Will Position, Authority 2014 Md. Code, State Government 3-305(b)(1).

At 8:42 p.m. on motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners unanimously reconvened into open session.

**Presidents Report:** Commissioner Porter stated the Commissioners met with the County Attorney, who provided them with an update on litigation regarding sand and gravel mining. The Commissioners were also briefed on personnel issues within the Department of Emergency Services. Finally, they discussed the candidates for an at-will position.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

  
Jennifer M. Farina  
Administrative Coordinator