

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY
109 Market Street, Room 106
DENTON, MD 21629

Minutes
March 1, 2022

Present: President Larry C. Porter; Vice President Daniel J. Franklin, Commissioner Wilbur Levensgood, Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Convocation by Reverend David Griffin.

There was no public comment.

COVID-19 Response & Recovery Update - Robin Cahall, Health Officer, Caroline County Health Department: Ms. Cahall presented the current COVID-19 information to the Commissioners. She mentioned that the case rate has gone down. Currently, there are 60% fully vaccinated folks within the County.

Matthew Kaczynski, Development Review Coordinator - Chicken Bridge Road Name Change Discussion: Mr. Kaczynski stated that Mr. Dobson submitted a petition to have Chicken Bridge Road changed to Hannah Henry Way. Currently, the law requires 100% of signatures from property owners; that has not been reached. Commissioners may grant waiver if they choose to do so. Mr. Kaczynski stated that the County must maintain emergency services data and must go through the changing process, which will be a significant lift on the County. Mr. Rodney Dobson came to speak about the reasoning behind the name change. Ms. Hannah Henry was a great teacher and person. To change the road name, the Commissioners must adopt a resolution. Commissioner Franklin made a motion to create a resolution to change the name of Chicken Bridge Road to Hannah Henry Way. Commissioner Levensgood seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted to have a resolution drafted and brought before them to approve.

Ryan White, Mosquito Control: Mr. White presented the Commissioners with some cost estimates for mosquito control in the County. \$165/ acre (1st acre), after that \$8/acre outside of towns. There is a change to possibility to make it per acre. Mr. White stated that this would be over a 7-year period.

Shannon Hannawald, Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore – Proclamation: Ms. Hannawald read the proclamation recognizing the impact that endometriosis has on woman all over the country and county that sometimes goes untreated causing severe health issues for those women. Ms. Hannawald wants to make endometriosis awareness known throughout the County.

Kaleigh Leager, Legislative Update: Ms. Leager provided an update on the following bills.

HB620/S341: Caroline County States Attorney and Sheriffs Salaries – Heard was 2/18 in ENT, testified and LOS. Has not moved yet. Heard and passed senate floor.

HB631: Sunday Hunting – This bill was submitted by Del. Ghrist but was not what we asked for originally. He withdrew the bill.

SB342/HB556: Sunday Hunting - This is the bill we asked for but we are added on with Queen Anne's County's bill as an amendment. The hearing produced a lot of opposition from the equestrian groups.

HB633: Accountability and Implementation Board Membership - This bill has a hearing scheduled for Thursday @ 1pm via zoom. Commissioner Porter is planning to testify in addition to the letter of support that was submitted.

HB797: BOE Student Membership – Ms. Leager emailed Rachel Barry from the Caroline County Board of Education for comment from Dr. Simmons. Currently, CCPS has two student members on the Board.

HB1144/SB664: Income Tax Film Production – Sen. Hershey's office is looking for a letter of support. This provides a tax credit for film companies who want to come to the County and film; Incentivizing bill. The Commissioners did not wish to submit a letter of support.

HB1243: Public Health Rural Nonemergency Medical Transportation Program – This bill is basically like an Uber for doctors' appointments. This would require \$1M be allocated to this program in his budget for non-profits. Mr. Goldman stated this is a good bill in theory, but it needs to be monitored so there isn't a clause that mandates Counties to provide matching funding.

SB379: BOE Member Removal – Ms. Leager stated that this bill came out of the EHEA Committee favorably, but needs to be voted on the Senate floor.

SB986/HB1240: Education Low Density Calculation – Ms. Leager stated that this was dropped after the hopper (bill submission) closed, was sent to the Rules Committee, and has hearing in the House scheduled for March 15th @ 1pm. This bill is supposed to find a way to help offset the disparity grant loss we are expecting to have this year.

Ms. Leager stated that herself and Commissioner Levensgood will be going to Annapolis next Thursday to testify on SB726 hearing on HUR Distribution. MACo reached out and needed folks to testify.

Consent Agenda: (Commissioner Franklin requested that the Closed Session minutes from 2/22/22 be removed) All other items were unanimously passed.

- Minutes – Open & Closed Sessions – February 8, 2022, February 15, 2022, February 22, 2022
- [Resolution #2022-001 – Water & Sewer Plan – Greensboro RWS Expansion](#)

- [Caroline County Emergency Services – FY2022 MIEMSS Emergency Medical Dispatch Grant Agreement](#)
- [FSIA Contract – 3rd Renewal](#)
- Part-Time Employment Contract – Paramedic – Pratt
- Part-Time Employment Contract – EMT – Plugge
- Part-Time Employment Contract – EMT – Pritchett
- Part-Time Employment Contract – EMT – Smith
- Employment Contract – 911 Specialist – Todd
- Employment Contract – 911 Specialist – Holland

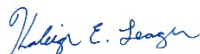
County Administrators Report – Jeremy Goldman: Mr. Goldman stated he was contacted about possibly hosting the pumpkin chunkin’ here in the County. He and the Commissioners agreed that it is too much of a safety hazard.

County Commissioners Open Discussion: Commissioner Levensgood mentioned that he attended the Lions Club shoot. Commissioner Franklin stated that he also attended the Lions Club shoot as well in addition to putting campaign signs up. Commissioner Porter stated that the YMCA and the County entered a MOU with the Y in June of 2018. There were 15 acres in Double Hills Rd. until July 2023. The YMCA was responsible for negotiating plans with the Town of Denton. Commissioner Porter stated that he heard that there was a meeting with the town to place the YMCA on the Southern States land, open hearing March 9th. Commissioner Porter is frustrated that the Town and County were working together on this project and then the Town does not contact the County to let them know that they are looking for another property. Commissioner Porter asked that Mr. Gill to come in and discuss this. Commissioner Porter also requested that staff find out about Hospice as well. Commissioner Porter mentioned he also heard that the Town of Denton was considering having their own Police Accountability Board. There is one Charging Committee (County) municipalities can have their own review board, but there can only be one Charging Committee. Commissioner Porter discussed the room tax. The County collects the room tax, we are allowed to keep an admin fee (per state statute) which we currently do not. Commissioner Porter wants to collect 10%, however the maximum allowed is 5%.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Franklin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Levensgood seconded. All three Commissioners voted to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.



Kaleigh Leager
Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners