

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

**Minutes**  
**March 24, 2020**

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

The meeting began at 9:00 AM via conference call.

**Situation Report and EOC Response Update Regarding COVID-19:** Scott LeRoy, Health Officer, Caroline County Health Department, briefed the Commissioners on several updates regarding COVID-19. He stated that there has been one positive case in Caroline County. He explained that it took two nurses approximately 36 hours to do contact tracing. There are four tiers of prioritization for testing. Most serious symptomatic patients get tests run first. For a non-symptomatic, low risk patient, results could take up to 10 days.

Anna Sierra, Director of Emergency Services gave a brief update on the operations of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Unified Command Center. Ms. Sierra stated that, there are 50 tests pending results between the Health Department and Choptank Community Health, and an additional 33 have returned negative. EMS Medical Director Dr. Krohmer is developing protocols for screening and isolation of essential employees. Emergency Services call volume is down in Caroline County and throughout the State. The Family Assistance Branch is working to ensure that all childcare needs of essential employees are being met and we should be receiving further state guidance on that soon. Rico Gestole is working as the Law Enforcement Liaison and is developing Personal Protective Equipment guidelines for police. County Employees are continuing to work in the Emergency Operations Center in various roles.

**Public Information Update:** Sara Visintainer, Public Information Officer, stated that the Joint Information Center (JIC) is disseminating as much information as possible to the public. The COVID-19 website ([www.carolinecovid19.org](http://www.carolinecovid19.org)) has been launched and has proven to be a valuable tool. Statistics across the social media sites have risen, the information is reaching the public. Additional information will be added to the COVID-19 website regarding Behavioral Health and Mental Health.

**Caroline County Public Schools Update:** Dr. Patty Saelens, Superintendent of Schools, explained that CCPS Procurement team is tracking all costs in the school district. There is a technology team gathering devices and a curriculum team developing lesson plans in the event that the system must transition to online learning for the remainder of the school year. If technology will have to be provided to the students, there will be a drive-up system used for distribution. Packets will be made for students who do not have access to the internet.

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

- Letter of Intent regarding CDBG for the Circuit Rider Position at Planning and Codes.

- Board of Education reimbursement requests from the 2019 bond funds for the GES in the amount of \$2,698,188.62.
- Federalsburg Historical Society letter of support to Maryland Heritage Areas Authority for repairs of the chimney and grading.
- Memorandum of Understanding between Department of Corrections and the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services for housing pre-release inmates.

**Action Agenda:** The following item was authorized by the Board:

- On a motion by Commissioner Franklin, seconded by Commissioner Porter, the Commissioners voted to approve the Construction contract with Rick Breeding Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$76,764.00 for the replacement of curbs and sidewalks at the Heath and Public Safety Building. Commissioner Levengood abstained from voting due to a familial relationship with company owners.

The Commissioners thanked all of the County staff and partner agencies who are working so hard in the response.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.



Mary Berneski  
Paralegal