

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

**Minutes**  
**March 31, 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:**

**Caroline County Public Schools Update:** Dr. Patty Saelens, Superintendent of Schools, explained that CCPS has finalized the first phase of Continuity of Learning. Staff passed out approximately 500 devices to high school students on Monday. Elementary and middle school will be given out throughout the rest of the week. The food distribution team has been working hard and handing out meals Monday through Thursday. They are also serving some of the homeless and elderly population in Caroline County. CCPS has instituted protocols for screening to ensure the health of the employees that are still reporting.

**Caroline County Health Department Update:** Scott LeRoy, Health Officer, briefed the Commissioners on several updates regarding COVID-19. He stated that Shore Health is in the early stages of discussing a Regional Care Site and that they are hoping to receive help from the State regarding staffing.

**Department of Emergency Services & Emergency Operations Center:** Anna Sierra, Director of Emergency Services, gave a brief update on the operations of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Unified Command. Ms. Sierra stated that there are four positive cases identified in Caroline County. Emergency Services call volume remains down in Caroline County and throughout the state. There has also been a decrease in the number of patients in the Emergency Rooms. This is due to people avoiding going to the Emergency Department with minor illnesses because of a concern for potential COVID-19 exposure. It is expected that call volume and Emergency Department demand will increase as the number of local cases of COVID-19 increase. The Family Assistance Branch is continuing to work to ensure that all childcare needs of essential employees are being met. The EOC has been handing out Personal Protective Equipment to first responders and long-term care facilities.

**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 and working hard to ensure that they are a credible source of information to the public. The PIA team is beginning to push out messaging to emphasize the importance of staying home. We continue to see high levels of engagement across the social media sites. We have used these platforms to request donations from the public and we are now starting to receive them.

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

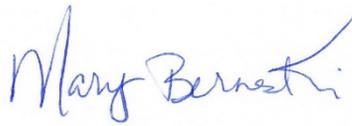
- Minutes of the March 24, 2020 County Commissioners Meeting.
- Hertrich Stormwater Maintenance and Inspection Agreement.

**Open Discussion Period:**

Commissioner Levensgood thanked all of the County employees who are working to keep the County up and running. Commissioner Porter requested clarification on what outdoor activities are permitted under the Governor Hogan's Stay at Home Order. Commissioner Porter expressed his concern for the local Fire Companies because they are unable to fundraise. He advised that he spoke with Delegate Ghrist and that they will be reaching out to a contact at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency to discuss options for assistance.

The Commissioners closed the meeting by thanking 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 10:07 a.m.



Mary Berneski  
Paralegal