

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

Minutes
June 9, 2020

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

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

Situation Report and EOC Response Update Regarding COVID-19:

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 they are continuing to work on a demobilization plan for the EOC. She advised that EOC staff is working with the Health Department to determine their needs after the EOC demobilizes. Ms. Sierra stated that Choptank Community Health is doing testing in Goldsboro which is resulting in slightly higher numbers in the north end of the County. She states that she will be meeting with representatives from Choptank Community Health to discuss a community testing plan.

Dr. Patty Saelens, Superintendent of Public Schools: Dr. Saelens advised that this is the last week of school for students and everything is wrapping up. She provided an update on the progress of Greensboro Elementary and invited the Commissioners to a walk-thru when convenient.

Debbie Bowden, Director of Economic Development: Ms. Bowden advised that the Small Business Recovery Grant program had a successful first week. There have been 38 applications received with 9 approvals thus far. The Economic Development team has been in communication with the local business owners to determine what their long-term needs will be. The second round of grants will start approximately June 20th, 2020.

Sara Visintainer, Chief of Staff: Ms. Visintainer stated that the Public Information Group is working on advertising the small business grants as well as conducting website maintenance and updates.

The Commissioners welcomed Interim Acting Health Officer, Roger Harrell. Mr. Harrell stated that he grateful for the opportunity to work with Caroline County. He advised that he is working with Recreation and Parks to get playgrounds opened.

Action Agenda: The following items were approved by unanimous consent:

- Resolution #2020-012, Amendment of the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget: Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding

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

- Open and Closed Session Minutes of June 2, 2020.
- Resolution #2020- 013, Updated Class Specification for Classification Officer within the Department of Corrections
- Resolution #2020-014, Disposal of Surplus County Equipment
- State of Maryland Department of Agriculture Agreement with Caroline County for the Control and Eradication of Noxious Weeds

County Administrators Report: Jeremy Goldman requested guidance from the Commissioners regarding approvals for subrecipient agreements under \$40,000 inside of the CARES budget. The Commissioners agreed that it is acceptable for Mr. Goldman to sign these agreements. Mr. Goldman stated that he will advise the Commissioners on each agreement that is signed. Mr. Goldman advised that the County will be moving into Level II operations on 6/10/2020 and suggested that the Commissioners continue to meet on a weekly basis throughout the end of the month. There will be modifications to the manner in which upcoming meetings are held and staff will begin to explore the summer schedule for Commissioners Meetings.

Open Discussion Period: Commissioner Porter read into record the following two special recognitions:

- Special Recognition - On your Toes Dance Studio. This is a special recognition to congratulate Katie Callahan for twenty-five years of devoted business to On Your Toes Dance Studio, in Denton Maryland. Ms. Callahan has instructed dance, in Caroline County since the age of 19. Not only has she had a positive impact on her students, but she has touched the hearts of many families and community members through her positivity and dedication to her studio.
- Special Recognition – Magic Mirror. This is a special recognition to congratulate Nancy Callahan for fifty years of devoted business to Magic Mirror Hair Studio, in Denton Maryland. Mrs. Callahan has been a practicing beautician in Caroline County since 1970. Not only has she had a positive impact on her clients but has run a dedicated family operating business that has the trust and following of many Caroline County residents.

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation to both business owners on their dedication to Caroline County and wished them well.

Commissioner Levengood stated that he attended a virtual meeting with surrounding counties regarding opening business in rural areas and encouraging the Governor to allow local officials to make those determinations. Commissioner Porter attended a press conference that was hosted by the District 36 team and attended by local restaurant and business owners. They also met to show support and encourage the Governor to reopen businesses.

Meeting Adjourned 10:05 AM.

Mary Berneski

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Paralegal