

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY**

109 Market Street, Room 106

DENTON, MD 21629

**Minutes  
August 16, 2022**

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Moment of silence.

**Reporting Out Statement:** Commissioner Porter stated that “During the August 2, 2022, County Commissioners Meeting, the Commissioners held two closed sessions. The first closed session was used to discuss employment under General Provisions Art. 3-305(b): (1). The Commissioners as well as Jamie Beechey, Deputy Director of Recreation and Parks as well as Kaleigh Leager, Executive Assistant were in attendance. The second closed session was used to discuss appointment and was held under General Provisions Art. 3-305(b): (1). The Commissioners as well as the County Attorney, Stewart Barroll, County Paralegal, Mary Berneski, Executive Assistant, Kaleigh Leager, and County Administrator, Jeremy Goldman were in attendance.”

**Sue Simmons, Director of Parks and Recreation – Caroline County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP):** Ms. Simmons stated that every five years each county in Maryland is required to submit an updated Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) to the State of Maryland. The plans provide a common benchmark to assist the State’s evaluation of each county’s land preservation and recreation programs and assist in guiding public investment in land preservation, parks, and recreation. LPPRPs also qualify local governments for State Program Open Space (POS) grants. The Maryland Department of Planning uses the information gathered through the county LPPRPs to develop a statewide plan, the Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPRP). The LPRP is required for Maryland’s participation in the Land & Water Conservation Fund, a critical funding source for land preservation and conservation efforts across the State. The LPPRP planning process allows local, county, and municipal jurisdictions to establish priorities to improve parks and recreation, and natural resource conservation in each county. The process ensures that public investment in land preservation and recreation supports the County’s Comprehensive Plan, State goals, and State and local programs that influence land use and development. Upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners, this LPPRP becomes an amendment to the Caroline County Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Ms. Simmons stated that the Planning Commission has reviewed and approved the plan to be adopted into the Caroline County Comprehensive Plan and that a public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Simmons then read the proclamation for the Caroline Summerfest.

**Stewart Barroll, County Attorney - First Readings and Introductions - Legislative Bill #2022-004 -Chapter 166 Taxation – §166-7 Exemptions from County Transfer Tax-Repeal**

**and Reenactment & Legislative Bill #2022-005 - Chapter 49 Personnel, Article III–Volunteer Firefighter Length of Service Award Program Trust:** Mr. Barroll performed the first reading and introduction of both legislative bills. Commissioner Franklin made a motion to schedule the public hearing on Legislative Bill #2022-004. Commissioner Levensgood seconded. All three Commissioners voted to move the bill to a public hearing scheduled for September 6<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Levensgood made a motion to schedule a public hearing for Legislative Bill #2022-005. Commissioner Franklin seconded. All three Commissioners voted to move the bill to a public hearing scheduled for September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Consent Agenda/Action Items: (All three Commissioners voted unanimously to pass the consent agenda with amendments):** Commissioner Levensgood requested that the Public Works Purchase Orders #2023-41 & #2023-52. Commissioners Porter, and Franklin voted to approve the purchase orders #2023-41 & #2023-52. Commissioner Levensgood opposed. All three Commissioners voted to approve the remainder of the consent agenda.

- Minutes – Open & Closed – August 2, 2022
- [Caroline County Public Library Certification of Aid FY2023](#)
- Caroline County Emergency Services – Stryker Sales Corporation - [PO# 2023-76](#) & [EMS Combined ProCare Agreement - \\$52,340.20](#)
- [Caroline County Department of Information & Technology – Dell Marketing, L.P. – PO# 2023-87 - \\$57,975.63](#)
- [Caroline County Department of Public Works – Harper and Sons, INC. – Courthouse Renovations Bid Award Contract & PO#2023-77](#)
- Department of Public Works – [\(2\) John Deere 5100E Cab Tractors FT4 & Purchase Order #2023-52 & Purchase Order #2023-41](#)
- Employment Contract – J. Beechey
- Employment Contract – C. Scott
- [Resolution #2022-015 – 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment – Police Accountability Board](#)
- [Resolution #2022-016 - Recreation & Parks Reorganization and Class Specifications](#)
- Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board Reappointment Letter of Support – M. Feldman

**Action Items: Police Accountability Board Appointments:** Commissioners Franklin and Porter thanked everyone who applied. Commissioners Porter and Franklin voted to appoint the board. Commissioner Levensgood voted against the appointment of the board members.

- B. James
- D. Whaley
- J. Bartlett, Jr.
- D. Lord
- E. Smith
- D. Towers
- D. Johns
- N. Nagel
- M. Hudson

- P. Clark, Sr.

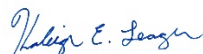
**County Administrators Report – Jeremy Goldman:** Homeowner drop off. Mr. Holt has allowed us to purchase the land and tax appraised value. 5 parcels smooshed together into one. Largest sections are just over an acre. \$42,000ish dollars. Commissioners are okay with it. Issue on River Road with busted pipe. Working with landowner from Melville from Henderson about drop-off. Ocean City MACo Wednesday mid-day.

**County Commissioners Open Discussion:** Commissioner Levensgood stated that he attended the National Firefighters training regarding lithium-ion batteries. He stated that there are not enough answers to these serious life-threatening fires. Commissioner Franklin did not have a comment. Commissioner Porter stated that the County needs to reach out to Mr. Kenny Wood with Lifetime Wells as they do incredible philanthropic work drilling water wells for villages in Africa. Commissioner Porter stated that the County received a cease-and-desist letter from legal counsel representing Compass Hospice. Commissioner Franklin asked how the County differs from a private citizen requesting this information. Mr. Barroll stated that there is no difference. Chris Rice, Director of IT presented some information about installing a video system to the Commissioners Hearing Room as well as the HAPS building. He stated it is going to cost around \$25,000 per room with about \$20,000 of annual cost. Mr. Goldman stated that the County budgeted \$1M for a new pole building for strategic storage and training room for DES. Currently, the building cost is way over budget. Mr. Goldman stated that the County is going to look at rehabilitating the DCT building.

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 10:50 a.m.



Kaleigh Leager  
Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners