

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

WORK SESSION
October 12, 2021

Present: Larry C. Porter; President, Daniel J. Franklin; Vice President, Wilbur Levensgood; Commissioner, Jeremy Goldman, County Administrator; Stewart Barroll, County Attorney (virtually); and Kaleigh Leager, Executive Assistant

Topic One: Status of the Departments

1. Department of Emergency Services: Mark Sheridan, Director

Mr. Sheridan informed the Commissioners that he has been in his position for 80 days and he is appreciative for the opportunity to serve in this role. Mr. Sheridan wanted to thank all the members of the Department of Emergency services for the great work and dedication. Mr. Sheridan wanted to give a special shout out to Mr. Steve Hurlock, Division Chief of Communications, Mrs. KJ Marvel, Division Chief of Emergency Medical Services, Mr. Sam Grant, Division Chief of Emergency Management, Ms. Kelli Schanken, Office Manager, and Ms. Stacey Twigg, EMS Billing Coordinator. Currently, there are 4 vacancies in the division. 7 people are unavailable to work daily due sickness or workers compensation related issues. Currently, interviews are being held for the open positions. Currently, the 911 center is the department with the least staffing issues. Emergency Management is solely staffed by Sam Grant; there is currently a part-time opening. Mr. Sheridan mentioned that a lot of the equipment is starting to need to be replaced as they were all purchased at once with a grant.

2. Caroline County Public Schools Summer Program: Lindsey McCormick & Stacy Seward

Ms. Seward from the Caroline County Department of Recreation and Parks along with Ms. McCormick from Caroline County Public Schools provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Commissioners. During the 6-week program, there were no documented cases of COVID. There were over 90 recreation staff led by 5 site directors. There were 65 certified teachers, 10 instructional assistants, 6 nurses and several CAN's. 643 Elementary ages children attended: 53% male/47% female. 18% of the special education students attended the summer program. Ms. Seward and Ms. McCormick concluded by stating the program was extremely successful.

Topic Two: North County Park Discussion

Delegate Jeff Ghrist, Director of Recreation and Parks, Sue Simmons and Deputy Director of Recreation and Parks, Jamie Beechy met with the Commissioners to discuss the funding request that has been made to the State Secretary of Budget and Management, David Brinkley regarding North County Park. The meeting with Secretary Brinkley resulted in an ask of \$750,000 per year for two years out of the Governor's Capital Budget. The Commissioners agreed to submitting a request of this amount from the Governor's Capital Budget to be solely used on the North County Park projects.

Topic Three: State Legislation Discussion

Kaleigh Leager, Executive Assistant to the County Commissioners stated that the 2022 legislative session is less than 100 days away. She mentioned that each year the County hosts the State Delegation where the County submits legislative requests to the State Delegation. The purpose if this is to either request their support or sponsor legislation at the State level. Currently, the County has received 4 requests for the Commissioners consideration; ultimately the Commissioners will choose what the County's priorities are before they are submitted to the State Delegation. The requests are as follows:

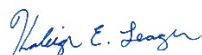
1. Debbie Bennet, Caroline County Public Library: Requesting support on an additional four years of per capita increase for Regional Libraries and Public Libraries. She is also requesting for continued support for the State Library Capital Grant Program for the State, in the amount of \$7,500,000 to spread across all of the State's public libraries.
2. Sue Simmons, Director of Recreation and Parks: Ms. Simmons is asking for support from the Commissioners in the form of a letter of support to Sec. Brinkley and the Governor for the Capital Budget request in the amount of \$750,000 per year over the next two years. If the Governor does not place this request in his budget, then Ms. Simmons and Del. Ghrist will submit a request through a Bond Bill initiative.
3. Scott Warner, Mid-Shore Regional Council: Mr. Warner is asking for the Commissioners support in his request in the continuation of funding through FY23 in the amount of \$200,000 from the Governor's budget. In addition, Mr. Warner asked the Commissioners to support their ask of a \$9,000,000 for the Rural Maryland Prosperity Fund.
4. Caroline County public schools is asking for the Commissioners support in their Capital Budget request for the Judy Center located in Greensboro.

Topic Four: DES Training Coordinator & Medical Director Class Specifications Discussion

Sherry Bratton, Director of Human Resources, Mark Sheridan, Director of Emergency Services and KJ Marvel, Division Chief of EMS met with the Commissioners to present the Class Specifications. This discussion was held to see if the Commissioners had any questions or wanted to make any changes to the positions.

Commissioners Open Discussion Period

Commissioner Levengood mentioned that he recently finished cutting corn and is ready to go cut soybeans. Commissioner Franklin inquired when the County's mask mandate would be rescinded. Administrator Goldman stated that once the County's transmission level drops below high, he would resend an operational directive to change the mandate to a suggestion.



Kaleigh Leager
Executive Assistant to The County Commissioners