

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CAROLINE COUNTY

109 Market Street, Room 106, Denton, Maryland

### Minutes April 13, 2020

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

The meeting began at 9:00 AM.

**Closed Session Report Out:** President Porter stated that the Caroline County Commissioners held a Closed Session during their April 6, 2021 meeting to discuss the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate in Caroline County. The Commissioners also met with an At-will employee to update the terms of their contract.

**COVID-19 Response Update:** Anna Sierra, Director, Department of Emergency Services stated that she would be going over Laura Patrick's Health Officer report. She stated that as of April 12<sup>th</sup> Caroline County has vaccinated 19% of our population. She stated that they have vaccinated 76% of the 65+ population in the County which is a great accomplishment and something to be very proud of.

Ms. Sierra stated that the CDC recommend stopping the distribution of the Johnson and Johnson (JANSSEN) vaccine, which was the one and done vaccine. She stated that there have been currently 7 cases of an extremely rare blood clot in younger females within 14 days of receiving the shot. Ms. Sierra stated that currently all J&J clinics that were schedule for Caroline County will now switch over to Moderna clinics. She stated that last week the FEMA Mobile Vaccination unit as well as the additional outreach teams were able to administer 1,468 vaccines.

Dr. Simmons, Interim Superintendent, informed the Commissioners that there were 3 COVID positive cases in schools, however due to their quick policy plans they were able to handle the situation with no major issues to the rest of the school system. Dr. Simmons stated that he continues to work with the Health Department as more information is provided to them regarding COVID-19.

Sara Visintainer, Chief of staff, stated that the PIO team spent the past week promoting the J&J vaccine and FEMA Mobile unit. She stated that the Equity team has done a fabulous job and has worked hard to promote outreach of the J&J shot.

**Discussion of the Caroline County Infrastructure Investment Opportunities:** Michael Shone, Managing Director, Marquette Associates Inc. presented the board with the Caroline County Infrastructure Investment Opportunity PowerPoint. Mr. Shone stated that the reasoning for the presentation is to provide the board with more details regarding the pension plan opportunities. Mr. Goldman stated that the County's Pension Board recommend moving forward with the Infrastructure Investment opportunity. The Commissioners stated that they agree with their pension team. Mr. Goldman stated that a resolution to add this infrastructure would be provided at a later date.

**Approval of the Proposed Capital and Operating FY2022 Budgets:** Margaret Roe, Director, Office

of Finance, provided the Board with the updated proposed budgets for the fiscal year 2022. She stated that she had provided the Commissioners with all updated items since their previous discussion.

On motion by Commissioner Franklin, Seconded by Commissioner Levensgood, the Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the Proposed FY2022 Capital and Operating Budgets.

**Workshop: Solid Waste Management Plan for Caroline County:** Katherleen Freeman, Director, Planning and Codes, stated that the Solid Waste (SWMP) has been updated by staff from the Departments of Planning & Codes and Public Works. In accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland Section 503 of the Environment Article, Caroline County is required to update and adopt the Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) every 10 years. The Planning Commission must review the SWMP and certify its consistency with the Caroline County Comprehensive Plan. A draft SWMP was submitted to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for review on January 19, 2021. MDE completed its review of the SWMP and provided comments to the County on February 19, 2021. All comments have been incorporated. Per Section 9-506(1) of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the County Planning Commission must certify the SWMP to be consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan and forward with a recommendation to the County Commissioners for Public Hearing and submittal to the MDE. Ms. Freeman stated that staff would be back at a later date to present the public hearing and final resolution to adopt Caroline County Solid Waste Management Plan 2021-2030.

**Consent agenda:** the following items were approved by unanimous consent

- Letter of Support for St. Paul Church to Apply for the Maryland Historical Trust Loan Program
- Approval on Payment from Contingency to the Comptroller of Maryland, Wynne Credit Liability \$94,614
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY021 Contingency Expenses \$ 97,831.83
- Resolution #2021-04 Amendment to Caroline County Personnel Rules and Regulations, Class Specifications for Caroline County Department of Emergency Services, Office of Law and Office of Finance

**County Administrator's Report:**

- Mr. Goldman stated that he would like the Commissioners support in entering an Amicus Brief request to support Worcester County against a municipal affairs lawsuit. The Commissioners stated that they would like a letter sent over support Worcester County in regarding to this court case.

**Commissioner Open Discussion**

Commissioner Levensgood stated that his schedule has been packed with meetings

Commissioner Franklin stated that he received a complaint via email regarding a piece of property located in the county that has several unregistered and undrivable vehicles sitting on the property. He stated that he reached out to the Planning and Codes director who has dealt with this piece of property in the past. He stated that the Departments Code Enforcement Officers would be following up and trying to work with the property owners as well as the citizens who complained. He stated that there are a total of 12 vehicles currently parked on the property on Breeding Road.

Commissioner Porter stated that he would like to be updated on the Caroline County Hospice project as well as the YMCA update.

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

  
Jennifer M. Farina  
Administrative Coordinator