

June 9, 2022

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Allegany County was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Allegany Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, at 5:00 p.m. on the above date. The following were present: Commissioner Jacob C. Shade; Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.; Commissioner David J. Caporale; County Administrator Jason M. Bennett; and County Attorney T. Lee Beeman, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

#### **MOTION**

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

#### **MOTION**

Upon Motion by Commissioner Brodie, and seconded by Commissioner Caporale, the Minutes of the May 26, 2022 public business meeting were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

#### **PRESENTATION**

**Item 1 – Mountain Maryland Trails Check Presentation** – Larry Brock thanked the County Commissioners on behalf of Mountain Maryland Trails and then shared some updated information about the organization and the trails, as set forth on his letter addressed to the County Commissioners dated June 9, 2022. A copy of this letter is attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Mr. Brock also presented the Commissioners with a check from Mountain Maryland Trails in the amount of \$5,000.00 to help pay for a new trailer to assist with maintenance along the Great Allegheny Passage.

On behalf of the County Commissioners, Commissioner Brodie thanked Mr. Brock and the other members of Mountain Maryland Trails for all their assistance with upkeep of the trails. He also expressed thanks to Laura Legge, former Mayor of Westernport, present at this meeting.

#### **ACTION AGENDA**

**Item 2 – Resolution – 22-15 – Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Commission** – Board of County Commissioners to approve the creation of a Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Commission for Allegany County, Maryland, and approve Resolution 22-15 – T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney, presented background and information as set forth on Resolution 22-15, Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Commission. This Resolution is made a part of these Minutes by reference. Attorney Beeman explained that the Resolution was drafted to allow Allegany County to come into compliance with House Bill 570, which passed through the 2021 Legislative Session for the State of Maryland, and to meet the requirements of the State's Public Safety Code. Attorney Beeman pointed out that the Resolution would establish two boards: 1) the Police Accountability Board, to meet on a quarterly basis; to provide advisement to the chiefs of each local law enforcement agency, as well as the Sheriff's Office; and to review any administrative charges filed against any officers; and 2) the Administrative Charging Commission, which board would, under state mandate, review any complaints filed either with law enforcement agencies or filed directly to the Administrative Charging Commission and make a determination as to whether or not the officer should be administratively charged, with that recommendation to go back to the law enforcement agency for discipline.

Commissioner Shade asked if anyone present would like to speak regarding this matter.

**Ms. Tiffany Fisher**, President of the Allegany County NAACP, came forward. Ms. Fisher said that she also sits on the Maryland State Conference Executive Committee for the Maryland State Conference NAACP. She made brief comments concerning the boards to be established by Resolution 22-15.

County Attorney Beeman reported that the County is working with the Sheriff's Office to bring that Office into compliance with House Bill 570.

Commissioner Shade discussed his concerns with the disciplinary measures and matrix with County Attorney Beeman. Attorney Beeman explained that the disciplinary matrix is being put together by the Maryland Police Training Commission and will be promulgated and integrated into the State Code when it is put together. He also confirmed the duty of the Charging Commission.

Commissioner Shade discussed his concerns with the establishment of the Boards and stated his opposition to their establishment. He suggested that this Item be tabled until the State of Maryland has completed the matrix.

Commissioner Caporale commented that he also has concerns with the matrix not being completed yet, but pointed out that the Boards need to be in place per State mandate. Commissioner Brodie also voiced his concerns with establishment of the Boards.

Commissioner Caporale moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve and pass Resolution 22-15 to approve the creation of a Police Accountability Board and Administration Charging Commission for Allegany County, Maryland. Commissioner Brodie seconded the Motion. Motion carried by a vote of two to one.

**VOTE:**

Commissioner Brodie: Aye  
Commissioner Caporale: Aye  
Commissioner Shade: No

**Item 3 – Allegany County Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Commission Appointments** – Board of County Commissioners to approve the appointments of Donnie Knotts (Chairperson), Jane Ann McAlpine, Bishop Kenneth Watkins, Kristan Carter, and Bernie Zlomek to the Police Accountability Board, and Donnie Knotts, James Eberly, Esq., and Jeremy Bender to the Administrative Charging Commission – T. Lee Beeman, Jr., County Attorney.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Brodie, and seconded by Commissioner Caporale, the Board of County Commissioners, by a vote of two to one, approve the appointments of Donnie Knotts (Chairperson), Jane Ann McAlpine, Bishop Kenneth Watkins, Kristan Carter, and Bernie Zlomek to the Police Accountability Board, and Donnie Knotts, James Eberly, Esq., and Jeremy Bender to the Administrative Charging Commission.

**VOTE:**

Commissioner Brodie: Aye  
Commissioner Caporale: Aye  
Commissioner Shade: No

Commissioner Brodie brought up a concern as to whether the members of the Boards would be protected in any way.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

As recommended by the County Administrator

Upon Motion by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved and adopted the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

**Item 4 – Budget Amendments** – Board of County Commissioners approved 11 budget amendments in the amount of \$9,302,776 related to fund balance uses for the annual vacation buyback program, an allocation of workers compensation, recognition of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Rental Assistance funding, and several other grant awards and changes. These changes will be made to the Fiscal Year 2022 budget to appropriately reflect this activity in the adopted budget.

**Item 5 – United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Loan – North Branch Pumping Station** – Board of County Commissioners authorized the President of the County Commissioners to sign RUS Bulletin 1780-27 on a USDA loan in the amount of \$1,092,000 for the North Branch Pumping Station.

**Item 6 – Department of Economic and Community Development Responsive Website Redesign and Content Management System Rebuild Award** – Board of County Commissioners approved and awarded the new Department of Economic and Community Development Responsive Website Redesign and Content Management System Rebuild to 64 Robots, Baltimore, Maryland, in the amount of \$45,000, plus a yearly fee that will be between \$282 and \$630 for hosting, security and cloud storage, and to perform the work described in the submitted proposal.

**Item 7 – Bid Award for Emulsified Asphalt** – Board of County Commissioners approved the award to purchase emulsified asphalt for use by the Department of Public Works Roads Division to Russell Standard, Fayetteville, Pennsylvania, in the amount of \$2.79 per gallon (July 1, 2022 to October 31, 2022) and \$2.79 per gallon (April 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023) for CRS2-PM.

**Item 8 – Bid Award for Delivered Cleaned-Washed Crushed Stone** – Board of County Commissioners approved the award to purchase delivered cleaned-washed crushed stone for use by the Department of Public Works Roads Division to Allegany Aggregates, Cumberland, Maryland, in the amount of \$262,023.12 from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

**Item 9 – Fiscal Year 2022 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 5307 Transportation Assistance Grant** – Board of County Commissioners authorized the County Administrator to sign the Fiscal Year 2022 ARPA Operating Grant Agreement to provide up to \$358,282 in State funding.

**Item 10 – Resolution 22-14 – Rules & Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County, Maryland Amendments** – Board of County Commissioners approved Resolution 22-14, the amendments to the Rules & Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County, Maryland.

**Item 11 – CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Medical Insurance Plan Renewal** – Board of County Commissioners approved the renewal of the CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield medical insurance plan for Allegany County Government employees and retirees for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, and authorized the County Administrator to sign.

**Item 12 – 2022 Polish Mountain Hill Climb – Sports Car Event** – Board of County Commissioners approved a letter of authorization for the Polish Mountain Hill Climb planned for August 6 and 7, 2022. The Western Maryland Chapter Washington, DC Region of the Sports Car Club of America (WDCR-SCCA) has presented a plan to partner with the Flintstone Volunteer Fire Company to support this unique motorsport activity.

**Item 13 – Community Promotions** – Board of County Commissioners authorized the County Finance Department to remit \$1,000 budgeted from the Community Promotions Account to the Allegany Arts Council to be used towards their national quilting competition.

**County Administrator** had no further comments to make at this evening's meeting.

**County Attorney** commented on the Polish Mountain Hill Climb and thanked the Commissioners for their support of this event. He encouraged attendance at this fun event.

**Commissioners' statements, comments, recognition –**

**Commissioner David Caporale** thanked Commissioner Shade for his comments on the Accountability Board. He remarked that while he does agree with his concerns, this is something that has to be implemented per the State. Commissioner Caporale also commented that this will need to be handled well and professionally.

**Commissioner Creade Brodie** had no further comments to make at this evening's meeting.

**Commissioner Jacob Shade** had no further comments to make at this evening's meeting.

**Constituents** – In order of sign-up sheet – No one signed up to speak at this meeting.

**Reminders/Upcoming Meetings –**

**Next Public Business Meeting** – Thursday, June 23, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob C. Shade, President

True Copy  
Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia A. Young  
Recording Secretary



## Mountain Maryland Trails

*"Where the passage begins and the connections are endless."*

P.O. Box 28 • Cumberland, MD 21501-0028

Find us on Facebook Mountain Maryland Trails

---

June 9, 2022

Allegany County Commissioners

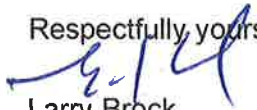
Mountain Maryland Trail (MMT) has worked with Allegany County (Alco), to continue to improve the GAP and other trails in our area, Over the last year we have

- painted "slow congested area" signs on the Cumberland end of the GAP
- MMT has begun working with the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad to facilitate the shuttling of bicycles from Cumberland to Frostburg.
- MMT with WMSR and Tracks and Yaks, we have just installed two live cameras on the GAP near the brush tunnel. The live feed is available at [www.mountainmdtrails.org](http://www.mountainmdtrails.org).
- Our 4th, 3 AM Bike challenge was very successful last year raising over \$7000 to help us facilitate these activities. Our 5th 3M Bike Challenge will be Sept 10 2022 against, the 350 ton steam locomotive "1309 Maryland Thunder "
- On March 26 we had a successful cleanup, Over 20 people helped collect approximately 1000 pounds of trash from along the GAP.
- MMT's has a very active website please check out [www.mountainMDtrails.org](http://www.mountainMDtrails.org)
- We are working diligently with Maryland DNR and Alco to develop the George's Creek Trail.
  - MMT provided a professional engineering study to calculate that it would cost \$6,040,000 to put in a 7.52 mile rail trail. Versus 11.4 million to upgrade to a railroad.
- MT MMT's is working with DNR and Alco to facilitate access to the Wills Mountain Park in North Cumberland.
- MMT is involved with the City Of Cumberland to build mountain bike trails in Constitution Park.
- MMT's is also working with trail ambassadors to enhance the experience of visitors and locals along the Great Allegheny Passage.
- Continuing to work with the GAP Conservancy, Allegany County Tourism, the cities of Frostburg and Cumberland to help promote the GAP and outdoor Allegany in several dozen national and international publications. From MPT to readers digest.
- MMT helped attract nearly 50,000 people from out of town and 100,000 locals enjoy the GAP. This resulted in \$32,000,000 to the local economy.
- MMT facilitated the repairs of trail Damage on the pavement in Cumberland working with Alco, WMSR and the City of Cumberland to complete these repairs.
- MMT's has agreed to share equally with Allegany county the \$10,000 cost of a new trailer to assist with maintenance along the GAP

- We are presenting Allegany County a check for \$5,000 to support this important new asset to keep the GAP in good shape,

If you would like to be part of this active "get R done" group please join us at [www.mountainmdtrails.org](http://www.mountainmdtrails.org)

Respectfully yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Larry Brock", is written over the typed name.

Larry Brock  
President