



Board of Carroll County Commissioners

County Office Building
Westminster, MD 21157

www.ccgovernment.carr.org

Open Session

~ Minutes ~

Admin

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

10:00 AM

County Office Building Rm 311

I. Call to Order

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Stephen Wantz	Board of Carroll County Commissioners	President	Present	
Richard Weaver	Board of Carroll County Commissioners	Vice-President	Present	
Dennis Frazier	Board of Carroll County Commissioners	Secretary	Present	
Richard Rothschild	Board of Carroll County Commissioners	Commissioner	Absent	
Doug Howard	Board of Carroll County Commissioners	Commissioner	Present	

II. Invocation ~ Commissioner Frazier

III. Positively Carroll

IV. Public Comment ~ Item No. V

None

V. Discussion/Decision ~ Briefing on March 3, 2016 ~ Veteran's Shuttle Funding

On March 3, the Board was provided a briefing on the Carroll County Veterans Shuttle that included the need for an additional \$45,000 to fund operations for the entire fiscal year. The original budget of \$25,000 has been fully expended. As noted in that briefing, these additional funds are needed because:

- Initial funding covered only specific expenses and did not include fuel, maintenance, insurances, etc.
- A third vehicle was added to operations in February, and
- The number of registered veterans eligible to ride is steadily increasing.

Fiscal Year 2016 started with 125 registered veterans needing transit service. During these eight months of FY16, this program has grown to 175 registered veterans (a 40% increase), and provided more than 567 passenger trips. This program cannot receive public transit grant funding because this service is available only to veterans; therefore, this program is funded entirely with County dollars. Through this program, registered veterans are provided access to their assigned Veterans Administration Medical Center outside of Carroll County.

- 1. Motion To:** approve \$45,000 in additional funding to fully fund the Veteran's Shuttle through Fiscal Year 2016

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Doug Howard, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Richard Weaver, Vice-President
AYES:	Stephen Wantz, Richard Weaver, Dennis Frazier, Doug Howard
ABSENT:	Richard Rothschild

2. **Motion To:** authorize the transfer of \$45,000 from the Reserve for Contingencies Fund to Citizen Services Administration

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Doug Howard, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Dennis Frazier, Secretary
AYES:	Stephen Wantz, Richard Weaver, Dennis Frazier, Doug Howard
ABSENT:	Richard Rothschild

VI. Public Comment ~ Item No. VII

None

VII. Briefing and Discussion ~ Briefing on March 3, 2016 Annual Consolidated Transportation Priority Letter

The Annual Consolidated Transportation Priority letter was presented for review. The letter highlights capacity enhancement for transportation projects in Carroll County. The county's top three (3) priorities are:

- MD 32 (MD 26 south to the Carroll County line) -This request dovetails with Governor Hogan's announcement in January that in addition to widening a nine-mile stretch of MD 32 in Howard County, the state will begin to explore and study the continuation of widening into Carroll County from I-70 to MD 26
- MD 97 (Bachmans Valley Road to MD 140 in Westminster) - The project has support from the Carroll County Industrial Development Authority and the City Westminster and provides public access to the Carroll County Regional Airport and numerous industrial parks.
- MD 26 (MD 32 east to Liberty Reservoir) - This is a long-standing project for the county and provides access to current and future employment centers along the corridor and elsewhere in Carroll County.

The letter also highlights urban reconstruction/streetscaping projects. Transit projects, and bicycle/pedestrian trail projects.

Commissioner Wantz expressed concern that MD 30 is not among the current list of priorities. The Bureau of Comprehensive Planning assured the Commissioners that the area will be able to handle any additional traffic, but affirmed that a county-wide comprehensive plan is needed.

The Commissioners will sign the letter and request endorsement from the County Delegation before submitting to the Maryland Department of Transportation.

VIII. Public Comment ~ No. Item IX

None

IX. Discussion/Decision - Request Approval ~ Grant Application for the Annual Transportation Plan (ATP)/Briefing on January 14, 2016

The FY 2017 Annual Transportation Plan (ATP) serves as the public transit grant application to the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The services proposed in this budget are subject to the Board's approval to implement. Funding is being requested for the Carroll County Public Transit Program, Carroll Transit System Operated by Ride With Us. The contract for fiscal year 2017 includes demand response service and the TrailBlazer network at current levels. The opportunity to hold a public hearing was posted in the Carroll County Times twice and no comments were received during this period or any requests to hold a public hearing. Letters of Support have been received from community partners. We are returning today for the Board's final approval to submit Carroll County's Annual Transportation Plan grant application to request Operating and Capital funding for use in delivering the Carroll Transit System services. The ATP grant application for Operating and Capital funding enables our public transit program to support our residents, allied agencies, human services, colleges, medical providers, businesses and community partners. Without these services, many programs would not be able to fund transportation and outreach.

1. **Motion To:** approve the submission of a grant application for the FY 2017 Annual Transportation Plan (ATP) in the amount of \$900,000 (Operating) and \$614,694.60 (Capital)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [3 TO 0]
MOVER:	Stephen Wantz, President
SECONDER:	Dennis Frazier, Secretary
AYES:	Stephen Wantz, Richard Weaver, Dennis Frazier
ABSTAIN:	Doug Howard
ABSENT:	Richard Rothschild

X. Public Comment ~ No. Item XI

None

XI. Briefing/Discussion/Decision ~ Grant Application ~ The Effectiveness of Upland Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation to Achieve Streambank Regeneration

The Bureau of Resource Management (BRM), Department of Land and Resource Management, is seeking funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to monitor the effectiveness of stormwater management practices on stream health and the ability to repair unstable stream banks with installation of a proper BMP. The BRM has been working closely with the Center for Watershed Protection to establish protocol necessary to prepare recommendations for inclusion of this stream stabilization technique as part of the nutrient credits for the local and Bay TMDL. This project will allow Carroll County to increase our nutrient reduction credits on existing retrofit projects and on future projects as well to meet requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

1. **Motion To:** approve the grant application ~ The Effectiveness of Upland Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation to Achieve Streambank Regeneration ~ in the amount of \$171,620.14

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Frazier, Secretary
SECONDER:	Richard Weaver, Vice-President
AYES:	Stephen Wantz, Richard Weaver, Dennis Frazier, Doug Howard
ABSENT:	Richard Rothschild

XII. Public Comment ~ Item No. XIII

None

XIII. Discussion/Possible Decision ~ Briefing on February 25, 2016 ~ Carroll County Communications Department and Director/Bureau and Bureau Chief

Commissioner Howard brought up the issue of a Communications Department/Bureau for County government. One of the most critical aspects of public office is communications. Communications with citizens, staff, County Delegation, Municipalities, other jurisdictions, the business community, other agencies and many other groups can impact the Board's effectiveness in governing. It can shape the public debate on key issues. It can focus community partners on the Board's goals and objectives. It can rally behind important priorities, and it can help the Board navigate challenging and controversial issues.

Carroll County has an array of communications staff and tools dispersed throughout the organization. Carroll County has a television channel, web-site, You Tube, Twitter, apps, press releases, a weekly radio address, publications and other means as well. What we do not have is a coordinated, cohesive and productive means for putting all these tools to work for better communications and for the highest benefit of our citizens.

Therefore, Commissioner Howard proposed that the Commissioners consider, publicly discussing and voting on the restructuring of the county communications effort into a Communications Bureau led by a Bureau Chief reporting directly to the County Commissioners. Commissioner Howard believes a debate and decision on such a structure in early March would allow the Board to prepare for and incorporate any changes into the county's plans and budget for FY17 and beyond. He believes there is a way that this can be done that would essentially be cost neutral to the County, and thus put no more burden on the taxpayers. And yet, he also believes there could be great efficiencies in the county and significantly improved two-way communications with citizens, both hallmarks of good conservative government.

XIV. Public Comment

Citizen comment(s): no citizen comments were received.

XV. Administrative Session ~ Open

The following issues were discussed:

1. Butler Medical Transport being allowed to use LGIT as insurance provider was discussed. Tim Burke reported that the Delegation would have to change the

name information of provider to be any provider.

2. Review of draft public agendas for the weeks of March 14, 2016 and March 21, 2016
3. Signing of Documents

XVI. Adjourn ~ 12:15 PM

1. **Motion To:** adjourn

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis Frazier, Secretary
SECONDER:	Richard Weaver, Vice-President
AYES:	Stephen Wantz, Richard Weaver, Dennis Frazier, Doug Howard
ABSENT:	Richard Rothschild