



Board of Carroll County Commissioners

County Office Building
Westminster, MD 21157

www.ccgovernment.carr.org

Budget Session

~ Minutes ~

Admin

Thursday, May 19, 2016

12:40 PM

County Office Building Reagan Room

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	Present	
Doug Howard	Board of Carroll County Commissioners	Commissioner	Present	

II. Communications Office ~ Discussion & Decision

The Board continued a discussion regarding the creation of a Communications Office for Carroll County Government. One of the most critical aspects of public office is communications. Communications with citizens, staff, the 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 support behind important priorities, and it can help navigate challenging and controversial issues. This could be done in a way that would be essentially cost neutral to the County, and thus would not put any additional burden on the taxpayers. It is a redefinition of the PIO position related to a more broader perspective over communications and having responsibility for what the Board does with the audio/video staff, marketing staff, and the graphic artist in terms of planning, directing, and messaging of those kinds of things. Of getting better communication out to the citizens, clearer messages of what the Commissioners are doing and using all of what's available to the Commissioners. To better organize information to be put out to the citizens will work better for the Commissioners, it is important to have someone take the lead and having all of the different media players together in one place. It was felt that the county definitely needs to change the image that the county has in doing things. Someone has to take the lead and have control. The biggest decisions that the Board makes, it has the County Administrator, Director of Management and Budget, and the County Attorney involved and it was thought that person should also be involved in the conversation in order for them to know what to send out to the media.

- Motion To:** create a Communications Office and structure the identified positions accordingly

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Doug Howard, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Richard Weaver, Vice-President
AYES:	Stephen Wantz, Richard Weaver, Dennis Frazier, Doug Howard
NAYS:	Richard Rothschild

III. Sheriff's Office ~ Day Reporting Center Grant Application ~ Discussion & Decision

There was a question as to why this subject is being discussed since there is no money in the budget for the matching funds for this grant. While it was felt that it would save people hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, the timing for this grant has really made this an issue. The question was raised if the county could take advantage of such a grant in the future? Mr. Zaleski said that there is a possibility that there may be county funds available in future fiscal years but we have no way of knowing. This is a statewide issue and other counties will also be in need of these funds. This leads one to believe that there would be more state funds available in the future.

- Motion To:** approve the Day Reporting Center grant application

RESULT:	DEFEATED [2 TO 3]
MOVER:	Doug Howard, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Richard Weaver, Vice-President
AYES:	Richard Weaver, Doug Howard
NAYS:	Stephen Wantz, Dennis Frazier, Richard Rothschild

IV. Proposed Budget Worksession

V. Public Comment

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

VI. Approval/Adoption of Minutes

- Tuesday, May 03, 2016
- Thursday, May 05, 2016
- Tuesday, May 10, 2016

VII. Administrative Session ~ Open

The following issues were discussed:

- Review of draft public agendas for the weeks of May 23, 2016 and May 30, 2016
- Signing of Documents

VIII. Adjourn ~ 3:06 PM

- Motion To:** adjourn

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