

BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, July 1, 2024

Meeting was also Live Streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/garrettcountygovernment/>

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Paul C. Edwards
Commissioner Ryan S. Savage
Commissioner S. Larry Tichnell
County Administrator Kevin G. Null

ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION

- ❖ **Fiscal Year 2025 Program Open Space Project Requests** – Siera Wigfield, Senior Planning, Garrett County Department of Community Development & Planning – Planning & Land Management Division, presented requests for Fiscal Year 2025 Program Open Space Funding. Four (4) development projects were submitted from two (2) municipalities, one (1) Local sponsor, and one (1) Garrett County Government organization totaling \$184,115.00.

Program Open Space funding available for Fiscal Year 2025 totaled \$184,115.00.

The Board of County Commissioners approved funding for the following projects:

1. Grantsville Community Park	Restroom Upgrades & Dog Park Creation	\$96,000.00
2. Bob Daman Veteran’s Park	Pavilion & Pavers	\$30,540.00
3. Eastern Garrett Community Park	Lacrosse Field Conversion	\$35,000.00
4. Fork Run Trail	Intermediate Trail	\$32,175.00

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Program Open Space Project funding.

- ❖ The Board of County Commissioners discussed a letter from the Garrett County Planning Commission dated July 3, 2024, proposing an amendment to the Deep Creek Watershed Zoning Ordinance to allow for “farm wineries” including the following:

PROPOSED FARM WINERY AMENDMENTS

1. Add a new Definition to read as follows: 157.007.B.(29)B “*FARM WINERY* – A winery operation having an approved Maryland Class 3 or 4 winery license and conducted on property classified as agricultural by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation. A Farm Winery may conduct wine tastings that include accessory food sales and have retail sales of wine and winery-related products.”
2. Amend Section 157.024 Table of Use Regulations by adding a new Section 157.024(E)29 “Farm Winery, subject to the following provisions:
 - a) A maximum of 500 square feet of floor area may be devoted to retail sales of wine and winery-related products.
 - b) At least two acres of the ingredients used in the production of beverages must be grown on-site. The growing area must be established within two years of approval.” The use shall be permitted by Special Exception in all zoning districts
3. Amend Section 157.041 Table of Dimensional Requirements by adding a new section “157.041.E.4 Farm Winery (Minimum Yard Widths shall be for any structures used for retail sales or tastings)”.

The Table columns shall be completed as follows: Zoning District: Anywhere Permitted; Minimum Total Lot or Land Area Per Use: 20 acres; Minimum Average Lot Area Per Dwelling Unit: Blank; Minimum Lot Width: Blank; Minimum Front Yard Width: 75; Minimum Side Yard Width: 100; Minimum Rear Yard Width: 100.

The Board of County Commissioners recommend the proposed ordinance for a Public Hearing.

- ❖ Mr. Null reviewed a number of administrative and managerial matters under his authority and jurisdiction with the Board of County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Commissioner Edwards, the Board of County Commissioners met in Executive Session under General Provisions Article § 3-305(b) (4) to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved to close the Administrative Session and open the Executive Session at 3:28 PM

The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Chairman Edwards, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Commissioner Savage, closed the Executive Session and opened the Administrative Session at 3:57 pm.

CALL TO ORDER OF PUBLIC SESSION at 4:00 PM

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Invocation by Commissioner Tichnell

PUBLIC SESSION

1. In compliance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act under Section 3-306 (c), a record of the Executive Session for July 1, 2024 is hereby documented on this date, the next open/public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

During the Administrative Session the Board of County Commissioners held a closed Executive Session as authorized under Article §3-305(b) (4) to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.

2. Mr. Null indicated no addition or deletion to the Public Meeting Agenda. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Agenda for July 1, 2024.
3. The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Tichnell, which was seconded by Commissioner Savage, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, approved the Public Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2024.
4. Garrett County Diversity and Inclusion Committee Update.
Duane Yoder, Chair of the Committee presented an overview of the Committee findings and several recommendations. Mr. Yoder reviewed the methodology used to collect data through visitor and citizen survey, listening sessions (16 sessions with 200 participants), and public comments. The report can be located on the County's website. (attached)

Chairman Edwards opened the meeting for public comments related to the Committee report.

Comments received:

- Support for continuing the Committee
- Monitor data to determine effectiveness
- What is the goal of the County Commissioners for acting on recommendations?

The Board of County Commissioners thanked the members of the Committee for their commitment to producing a thorough report and will take the recommendations under advisement and provide a response to each recommendation made in the report.

5. Recognition upon Retirement:

- ❖ Robert Stephens – Garrett County Health Officer
- ❖ Jay Moyer – Director, Garrett County Department of Public Works

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:** No further comments.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

- ❖ The Board of Garrett County Commissioners announced that the next Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at the Pleasant Valley Community Center beginning at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The Board of County Commissioners, on a motion by Commissioner Savage, which was seconded by Commissioner Tichnell, and made unanimous by Chairman Edwards, adjourned the Public Meeting at 5:04 P.M.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

KEVIN G. NULL
County Administrator

PAUL C. EDWARDS, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners