

January 26, 2021

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County met this date pursuant to its last adjournment and there were present:

Christopher M. Corchiarino  
James J. Moran  
Jack N. Wilson, Jr.  
Stephen Wilson  
Philip L. Dumenil

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Pursuant to State Government Law Section 3-305(b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner Moran, at 5:00 p.m. in the Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.” The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:15 p.m. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator, and Ms. Margie Houck, Executive Assistant and Beverly Churchill, Director of Human Resources met with the Board

The Board discussed a Boards and Commission appointment, and a change to a State’s Attorney’s office position.

In open session:

On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint Kate Tkacik Sweeney to fill a remaining unexpired term on the Social Services Advisory Board to begin effective immediately and end June 30, 2022.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	

S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to make a vacant contractual position into a full-time administrative position in the State’s Attorney’s office.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

Pursuant to State Government Law Section 3-305(b), (3): to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner Dumenil seconded by Commissioner Moran, at 5:15 p.m. in the Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.” The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. Todd Mohn, County Administrator, Ms. Margie Houck, Executive Assistant and Mr. Alan Quimby met with the Board.

The Board discussed land in Sudlersville.

**MINUTES:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the Agenda as amended for the current meeting and the Regular and Closed Session Minutes of January 12, 2021.

**PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The following persons spoke to the Commissioners on subjects of interest to them:

1. Valerie Hirsch
2. Carol (Seletos) Kendrick

**WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNATURE:**

The Board reviewed various correspondence with Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator.

**BRANDING SERVICES CONTRACT AWARD:**

Ms. Heather Tinelli, Economic Development Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Branding Services Contract Award.

An RFP for branding services was advertised with a deadline for submission of 12/28/20 through the County and State procurement websites. The proposed work consists of market research, creation of brand strategy and brand creative and design with a goal of creating a new cohesive brand identity for Queen Anne’s County.

The County was awarded a USDA Rural Business Development Grant for \$30,000 and the total budget for the project is \$45,400. The remaining portion of the project cost, \$14,500, will be covered under the department of Economic and Tourism Development budget.

QAC received 8 proposals for the project. After review of the proposals by the committee, the department believes that Choptank Communication’s proposal meets all the project requirements and its fees are within the budgeted amount of \$40,000. Adequate funding is available through the USDA grant award and marketing budget of QACETD.

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to authorize the Director of Economic and Tourism Development to execute the contract with Choptank Communications for the QAC Branding Project on behalf of the County Commissioners for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**PROPERTY LIENS:**

Ms. Vivian Swinson, III, Zoning Administrator, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Property Liens.

Map 59A, Parcel 164, Lot 3, 6303 Main Street, Queenstown (\$220) Vacant  
Map 30, Grid 15, Parcel 56, 1118 Price Station Road, Price (\$300) Vacant

An independent contractor hired by the Zoning Office to cut grass at the above referenced addresses after the property owner ignored repeated attempts by the Zoning Inspector to get the site to comply with Queen Anne’s County Code Chapter 19 Article II § 19-2 L. (2) which states: A person may not allow any vegetation to grow higher than 12 inches on any lot or parcel that is:

(a) Less than three acres in size; and (b) located in an approved or recorded residential subdivision or any part of which is within 200 feet of a neighboring residence

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed approve Resolutions 21-02 through 21-03 to place a lien on each of the properties listed in the County Zoning Administrator’s memorandum dated January 26, 2021 for nuisance violations.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**UPPER SHORE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mr. Daniel P. McDermott, Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board Executive Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Member appointment.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act mandates that the Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board (USWIB) is composed of three types of members: private sector representatives, agency representatives and community-based organization representatives. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act provides guidance for the appointment of private sector representatives but does not provide guidance for the appointment of agency representatives and community-based organization representatives. In the absence of guidance from the Act, the USWIB is asking the Queen Anne’s County Commission to concur with the agency representatives and community-based organization representatives who are asked to serve on the USWIB. These nominees are proposed by the state agency or organization that they represent.

The USWIB requested that the Queen Anne’s County Commission concur with Terenda V. Thomas serving a three-year term on the USWIB. Terenda V. Thomas represents the programs included in Title III of the Workforce Innovation d Opportunity Act and was proposed for USWIB service by Lloyd Day, the Director of Field Operations for the Maryland Department of Labor. Terenda V. Thomas holds the position, Upper Shore Labor Exchange Administrator for the Maryland Department of Labor. Terenda V. Thomas will fill the requirement for a representative on the USWIB for the Maryland Department of Labor as required in section 107 (b) ... of WIOA that requires this representation.

On a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to concur with Terenda V. Thomas serving a three-year term on the USWIB.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**MAXIM HEALTHCARE SERVICES:**

Dr. Joseph A. Ciotola, Jr. M.D., Health Officer, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Request for Approval > \$25,000 Maxim Healthcare Services.

The Queen Anne’s County Department of Health requested an exemption to the normal procurement policy to provide for extra staffing during the Covid-19 National Pandemic. QACDOH reached out to Maxim Healthcare Services for assistance in staffing due to critical nursing shortages. Maxim Healthcare Services has been able to secure and deliver qualified applicants who helped our response to the pandemic.

QACDOH was provided Maxim Healthcare Services information through Prince George’s County, who had established a contract with Maxim Healthcare Services. Through the contract, it was set up that other counties could also use the services that Maxim Healthcare Services without going through the normal solicitation process.

The staff that Maxim Healthcare Services has provided has been a huge part of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The staff provided has assisted and worked closely with QACDOH staff on COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, and now COVID-19 vaccination.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to grant the Queen Anne’s County Department of Health an exemption to the normal procurement policy to provide for extra staffing during the COVID-19 National Pandemic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ARTICLE:**

Jeffrey Thompson, Esquire, Planning Commission Counsel, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Proposed Amendments to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

At its January meeting, the Board of License Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, (“Liquor Board”) voted 3/2 to request your support to amend HB 12 - cross-filed as SB 205 to the end that Queen Anne’s County would be excluded from its provisions. Alternatively, the Board voted unanimously to request your support exclusion from Subsection (C) of the bills.

In addition, the Liquor Board is aware that there may be an effort to amend Alcoholic Beverages Article §4-205 which prohibits issuance of a liquor license for use in conjunction with or on the premises of a chain store, supermarket, or discount house. Here too, the Liquor Board seeks your support in excluding Queen Anne’s County from any effort to permit sales at these locations.

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, not to support an amendment to HB12/SB205 to exclude QAC from the provision to allow off premise consumption of alcoholic beverages.

After a discussion, Commissioner Corchiarino amended his motion, seconded by Commissioner Moran, to support HB12/SB205 with the provision to allow off premise consumption of alcoholic beverages provided that the local jurisdictions have the authority to implement it in their county and ask our delegation to submit an amendment that allows our counties to have local control over whether or not they are going to allow the off premise consumption of alcohol beverages to be under HB12/SB205.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, to support an amendment to HB12/SB205 to exclude QAC from subsection C prohibiting additional charges for license holders selling and/or delivering alcoholic beverages.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, to allow jurisdictions to have local autonomy over Liquor Board decisions.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**GIBSON’S GRANT COMMUNITY PIER & WATERFRONT PARK AREA:**

Ms. Amy G. Moredock, Principal Planner & Planning & Zoning Director, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Petition to Terminate Public Easement – PC Recommendation – Gibson’s Grant Community Pier and Waterfront Park Area.

**BACKGROUND**

In her capacity as Chair of the Gibson’s Grant Pier Usage Committee and on behalf of the Community Association, Valerie G.S. Hirsch requested that the County Commissioners terminate the public easement currently in place on the waterfront park area and the community pier located within the subdivision.

Ms. Hirsch placed this request before the County Commissioners at its August 25, 2020 meeting because the County is a party to that public easement as a component of the 2006 Gibsons Grant subdivision approval. As the public easement in question is a part of the subdivision approval, the County Commissioner conveyed this petition to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation.

At its November 12, 2020 meeting, the Planning Commission reviewed the Community Association’s formal and affiliated exhibits and heard testimony. After much discussion, the Commission voted (3 in support and 2 against) to send an unfavorable recommendation to the County Commissioners regarding the petition to terminate the public easement citing inconsistency with the intent of the 2006 Gibson’s Grant Subdivision approval and the affiliated Growth Allocation Conditions. See attached letter of recommendation.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER ACTION**

Having reviewed the evidence put forward by Ms. Hirsch, the County Commissioners have three potential courses of action:

1. Termination of the easement citing consistency with the intent of the 2006 Gibsons Grant Subdivision approval [of note is Ordinance 05-19 which enacts the Growth Allocation Conditions of Approval - herein].
2. Support of intermediate action such as:

- o Adoption of rules of public use which may limit hours or days of use, areas of use, and/or manners of use;
  - o Providing an alternative location for public access easements to a waterfront park area and a community pier to replace the amenity in like kind; or
  - o Favorable consideration of selected aspects of casement termination such as agreement that community pier access may be limited to community members per the 2006 Declaration of Covenants, Article VIII, Section 8.8 (Architectural Control. Community Pier) while disagreement that the waterfront park area per Article XI, Section 11.4 (Easements. Perpetual Non-Exclusive Easement in Common Area Available for Public Use) should be likewise restricted, or vice versa.
3. Denial of the petition to terminate the easement per Planning Commission recommendation citing inconsistency with the intent of the 2006 Gibson’s Grant Subdivision approval and the affiliated Growth Allocation Conditions.  
This item was placed on hold for additional information.

**MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to hold a hearing on the Mutual Aid Agreement.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed approve Budget Amendment CC-25.

#	CC-25								Date	1/13/2021
<b>QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY</b>										
<b>REQUEST FOR BUDGET AMENDMENT</b>										
<b>FY2021</b>										
										<b>Increase (Decrease) Amount</b>
<b>Description of expenditure/revenue accounts to increase/(decrease):</b>			<b>Fund</b>	<b>Account Code</b>						
<b>Increase</b>	General Fund	Income Taxes	100	199000	30201				\$	17,000
<b>Increase</b>	Aid to Agencies	Local Allocation	100	165040	8820				\$	17,000
<b>Justification:</b>										
This amendment is to cover the cost of the annual county contribution to Clean Chesapeake Coalition, which is being balanced by an increase in										
income tax revenue.										



Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland held a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Meeting Room in the Liberty Building, 107 N Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland 21617, to receive public comment on County Ordinance 20-13.

Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney, conducted the hearing on behalf of the county and noted all legal requirements were met.

**COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 20-13**

**A BILL ENTITLED**

**AN ACT CONCERNING Cottage Home Planned Residential Development;**

FOR THE PURPOSE of modifying the Planned Residential Developments standards in Chapter 18:1 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne’s County to establish standards for cottage home planned residential development in the sixteen zoning districts in Queen Anne’s County that permit major or minor multifamily uses; amending the definition of “multifamily” in Chapter 18 App of the Code of Public Local Laws and providing a definition of “cottage home” therein; and generally providing for and addressing cottage home residential development in Queen Anne’s County;

BY AMENDING Section 18:1-36 of the Code of Public Local Laws and revising the definition of “Multifamily” and providing a definition of “Cottage Home” in Chapter 18 App of the Code of Public Local Laws.

(NOTE: New language is shown CAPITALIZED AND BOLD FACED and deletions are shown by ~~strikethrough~~.)

The following gave public testimony:

1. Wheat Dudley – In Support
2. Barry Waterman – In Support

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland held a public hearing at 6:10 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Meeting Room in the Liberty Building, 107 N Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland 21617, to receive public comment on County Ordinance 21-01.

Patrick Thompson, Esquire, County Attorney, conducted the hearing on behalf of the county and noted all legal requirements were met.

BILL NO. 21-01  
A BILL ENTITLED  
“PUBLIC FACILITIES  
BOND AUTHORIZATION OF 2021”

A PUBLIC LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE AND EMPOWER QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, MARYLAND (THE “COUNTY”), FROM TIME TO TIME, TO BORROW NOT MORE THAN THIRTEEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$13,000,000) FOR THE PUBLIC PURPOSE OF FINANCING OR REFINANCING CERTAIN PUBLIC FACILITIES, ALL AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN, AND TO EVIDENCE SUCH BORROWING BY THE ISSUANCE AND SALE AT PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SALE, UPON ITS FULL FAITH AND CREDIT, OF ONE OR MORE SERIES OF ITS GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN LIKE PAR AMOUNT; EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 19-504(d) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (2013 REPLACEMENT VOLUME AND 2020 SUPPLEMENT) (THE “CODE”) PRIOR TO ISSUING ALL OR ANY PART OF THE BONDS; EMPOWERING AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY TO LEVY AD VALOREM TAXES IN RATE AND AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE MATURING PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND PLEDGING THE COUNTY’S FULL FAITH AND CREDIT AND UNLIMITED TAXING POWER TO THE PAYMENT THEREOF; EXEMPTING THE BONDS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 19-205 TO 19-206, INCLUSIVE, OF THE CODE; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REFUNDING BONDS; AND RELATING GENERALLY TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF SUCH BONDS

No persons gave public testimony.

**CHARACTER COUNTS!**

The Board presented, Ms. Kelly Huber, Character Counts Coach Specialist, the following Character Counts! Proclamation Provided by Queen Anne’s County CommUnity Mentoring Program Patricia Hackleman/ Coordinator:

WHEREAS, 20 years ago, Queen Anne’s County was declared a “Character Counts! Community” and all citizens were called upon to embrace the “Six Pillars of Character” and incorporate them into their daily lives; and

WHEREAS, the Character Counts! Pillar of the month for January is “Fairness”; and

WHEREAS, Fairness means being free from favoritism, self–interest, discrimination or bias and is exactly how we should treat others; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are created equal, have the right to equal opportunities and deserve to be treated with fairness; and

WHEREAS, all citizens have the right to express themselves but must remain open-minded and reasonable and judge with integrity when listening and responding to others; and

WHEREAS, all citizens will strive to be fair and play by the rules, abide by the laws, and never take advantage of others; and

WHEREAS, all citizens will admit when wrong and never blame others carelessly; and

WHEREAS, no citizen will be judged by their appearance but instead by the content of their character.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY, do hereby designate the *Character Counts!* Pillar of the Month for January to be “Fairness”.

**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES UPDATE:**

Mr. Scott A. Haas, Department of Emergency Services Director, submitted to the Board for their review, Department of Emergency Services Update.

COVID-19 Team Efforts:

- Emergency Operation Center
  - Longest EOC Activation in County History
  - March 2020 - Current
- Testing Sites
  - March 2020 – 41,422
- Logistics
  - March 2020
- Vaccination Sites
  - January 2021
  - >2,200 Doses Administered

Vaccination sites:

- Capability vs. Supply
- First in the State

- Sites
  - Mobile Clinics
  - Kent Island Volunteer Fire Departments
  - Goodwill Volunteer Fire Department
  - Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Department
  - Kramer Center

DES Testing Responsibility:

- Provide Initial Support to Health Department
- 1st Responders
- County Staff

Hurricane Isaias:

- August 2020
- Confirmed Tornado

Opioid crisis 2020 data:

- 75 Suspected Narcotic Overdoses
  - 63 Non-Fatal
  - 12 Fatal

Emergency medical services:

2020 Year End Totals

- Calls for Service – 6,939
- Transports – 3,158
- Procedures – 18,194
- Medications – 8,276
- COVID-19
  - PUI Transport – 337
  - PUI Positive – 86
  - Unknown – 92
  - Negative – 159
  - Decontamination Time – 90 minutes

Communications – 9-1-1:

- Computer Aided Dispatch – CAD
- NG 9-1-1
- Building Renovations

Computer aided dispatch:

- Tyler Technologies
  - Law Enforcement Records Management
  - Mobile Platforms
    - Fire/EMS
    - Law
  - Interface with Jail Software and Booking Livescan
- Project Completion December 2021

Next Generation 9-1-1:

- Project Oversight Through Eastern Shore Communications Alliance

- ESCA Includes the 9 Counties of the Eastern Shore
- Queen Anne’s County is the Lead
- AT&T – Contract Signed
- Completion Date December 2021

DES renovations:

- New Roof
- New HVAC System
- 9-1-1 Center Expansion
  - Upgrading 6 Positions to 10 Positions
- Projected Completion June 2021

**MALPF MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM:**

Ms. Donna K. Landis-Smith, Soil Conservation Aide/Land Preservation, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, MALPF Matching Funds Program.

Queen Anne’s County is a certified County which means 80% of all Agricultural Transfer tax collected is retained by the County and 20% is remitted to the State of Maryland. The Agricultural Transfer Tax is used for easement acquisitions. Queen Anne’s County also participates in the Matching Funds Program which would enable the County to receive monies from the State. Queen Anne’s County has participated in the Matching Funds Program since 2001.

The initial allocation from the State will provide approximately \$720,000 to each County for easement acquisition.

Currently, there is \$84,214.70 of Agricultural Transfer Tax available for commitment. The initial allocation from the State will provide \$720,000 to each County for easement acquisition. If Queen Anne’s County would dedicate \$1,333,334, towards the matching funds program, the State will match an additional \$2,000,000. Which would total \$4,053,334 for easement acquisition.

On a motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed approve \$84,217.70 of Ag Transfer Tax towards the MALPF matching funds program.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
S Wilson	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

**PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The following persons spoke to the Commissioners on subjects of interest to them:

1. Jay Falstad

**COMMISSIONER’S ROUNDTABLE:**

Commissioner S. Wilson discussed the following:

Is getting questions from seniors 65-older, when are they getting their shots.  
Please with the DES and their ability to take care of the vaccine distribution.  
Noted that the Bay Bridge study on hold indefinitely until COVID is over.

Commissioner Moran discussed the following:

Thanked the Commissioners for trying to get additional vaccine.  
Noted the Bay Bridge Study has been put on hold due to COVID

Commissioner J. Wilson discussed the following:

Noted on Commissioner S. Wilson’s comment to maybe reach out to tv media to get the message out at a local standpoint.  
The Governor put forth a business tax relief and unemployment relief bill.

Commissioner Dumenil discussed the following:

Kudos to the Goodwill and Kent Island Fire Departments. They have a great Vaccine process in place.

Commissioner Corchiarino discussed the following:

Noted they are trying to push to get more vaccines and are using various local media resources to get the message out to citizens.

There being no further business, they adjourned at 8:00 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

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PRESIDENT