

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING DECEMBER 28, 2017

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, December 28, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice President Tyler Moore, Member Brad Bray, County Auditor Martha Lake, and County Attorney Alan D. Wilson.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Steve Rogers and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Brad Bray led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Vice President Tyler Moore offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

DEPUTY CORONER:

Coroner Steve Seele introduced Lieutenant Shawn Haus. Mr. Haus has twenty-nine years of law enforcement experience in patrol, school resource, public relations, and training. The commissioners welcomed Mr. Haus. Chief Deputy Coroner Shawn Haus was sworn in by Superior Court IV Judge Anthony Hopkins. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.

DECEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD:

The Commissioners congratulated county employee Debbie Lorenz on a job well done in the Personnel Department. Ms. Lorenz transformed the personnel office and improved efficiency. Pictures were taken, and congratulations were given by all.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 18, 2017, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Moore. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

RECORDER:

Recorder Brook Cleaver submitted an agreement with GRW Engineers to access Laredo real estate records for Howard County. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the Laredo agreement with GRW Engineers as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

CLERK:

1. Chief Deputy Clerk Debra Stewart submitted a contract with Jeremy A. Peele, LLC to collect payment for certain fines and fees associated with court costs, infractions, and civil penalties. He has been collecting for the past ten years. Attorney Alan Wilson has reviewed the agreement. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the contract. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. Ms. Stewart also submitted three service agreements with CSI. This is the last year with CSI. The agreements have been paid out of the Clerk's Perpetuation Fund. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the contracts. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS:

VETERAN'S MONUMENT

Mr. Wyman summarized meetings about the Veteran's Monument. The Commissioners and the Courthouse Security Team reviewed the request to place the women's veteran monument on the southwest side of the courthouse. This raised safety concerns for prisoners and others in the area. The commissioners offered access to the northeast corner for the monument or Darrough Chapel Park. The northeast corner is the last spot available around the courthouse. Mr. Moore stated that other organizations had also asked about exhibits on the west side of the Courthouse, and that they were all refused. Mr. Moore then offered the northeast corner again, and Mr. Paul accepted the offer. Howard County Veteran Tylyn Keel, who served from 1976 to 1996 in the Marines, thanked the Howard County Commissioners for their aid and support for Veterans. Ms. Keel voiced her appreciation for this monument and what it represents to veterans. Ms. Keel talked about the changing role of women in the military from support to wounded soldiers. Howard County Veteran's Memorial Corporation President Jerry Paul expressed disappointment about non-access to the southwest corner of the courthouse, but he also commended the commissioners on their support. Mr. Paul stated that they wanted a freestanding monument, and they would be contacting the media for support on a local and national scale. Mr. Paul also stated that they want to begin on the platform site soon. Mr.

Moore commended Mr. Paul and his associates for all their work. Mr. Wyman stated that it will be necessary for Mr. Paul and associates to work closely with Howard County Attorney Alan Wilson for all the details of this project. Veteran Employment Specialist Annette Nearon thanked Mr. Paul, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for their help. Ms. Nearon pointed out that this would recognize the number of female veterans there are, and to make local employers aware of female veterans for jobs. VFW Post 1152 Senior Vice Commander Dick Lowe represented 730 members who support the veteran's monument.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Auditor Martha Lake submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid December 28, 2017, in the amount of \$1,394,253.24 were submitted and approved on a motion made by Mr. Bray. Mr. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Ratify Signatures:** Auditor Martha Lake submitted the following early paid claims: DAV Chapter 28 \$5,000.00; Hearn Construction \$142,326.63; and Hearn Construction \$96,489.43; A motion was made by Mr. Bray to ratify the signatures on the claims as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Moore, and the motion carried. Mr. Wyman stated that the \$5,000.00 to the DAV is a donation that will be used as match money for their existing vehicle grant. DAV Chapter 28 Commander Rex Ritchie thanked the Commissioners for helping to provide a vehicle for veterans.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

1. County Attorney Alan Wilson submitted the following names for official appointment to various boards.

Nominee	Board	Action
Idowu Ikubado	Howard County Community Corrections Board	Re-appointment
Marie Lindskoog	Howard County Convention and Visitors Bureau	Re-appointment

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the appointees as presented. Mr. Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Mr. Wyman wished everyone Happy New Year.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Bray, seconded by Mr. Moore, and carried.

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

TYLER O. MOORE, VICE PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Meeting December 28, 2017