

Commissioners hold dedication for new animal shelter

Posted by [Alan Van Wormer](#) On 11/15/2018

LA PLATA, Md. - On Tuesday, Nov. 14, the Board of Commissioners held a site dedication event for the new animal shelter that will be constructed on Piney Church Road in Charles County. Last month, the county awarded a design and engineering contract of the new animal shelter to serve county residents. It is anticipated that the new shelter will be completed and open to the public by 2022. View photos in [Flickr](#).

Approval Items

- Commissioners held a budget work session and voted to approve the preliminary capital budget request from the Charles County Board of Education. The request for state funding in the amount of \$31,166,000 would be used to pay for school-related renovations and capital improvements.
- Commissioners approved a resolution to establish a new Commission of Future Leaders. It will be composed of 19 individuals who represent students and young adults who will be responsible for fostering greater awareness of their concerns and identifying programs and services that are needed.
- Commissioners approved a budget transfer from the unassigned fund balance, not to exceed \$280,000, to pay for repairs to an electronic sign (located at the corner of Billingsley Road and Piney Church Road) and replacement of a video scoreboard at the Blue Crabs Stadium.
- Commissioners approved amendments and a restatement of the Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan document, reflecting changes that have been made through the collective bargaining process. Detailed information about the changes and the plan restatement are posted in BoardDocs.
- Commissioners approved the bylaws of the Commission for Veterans Affairs. The newly-established Commission was formed to evaluate, develop, and promote new and existing programs for Charles County veterans and their families.
- Commissioners appointed Maria Padgett as an at large member and as Chairperson; appointed Deputy Travis Yates as the Sheriff's Office Representative and Matthew Cook as Vice Chairperson to the Animal Matters Hearing Board; appointed Tamisha Keitt as a citizen member to the Nuisance Abatement Hearing Board; appointed Cathryn Szmurlo as a citizen member to the Internal Audit Oversight Committee; reappointed Sylvia Mudd as retiree member to the Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan Committee; and appointed David Eicholtz as an at large member to the Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan Committee.

Open Session Briefings

- County Administrator Michael D. Mallinoff, Esq., ICMA-CM presented an update on the County Government's progress during October. He reviewed major accomplishments and shared information on current county priorities.
- Staff introduced legislation that would replace a County Commissioner-appointed member to the Board of Fire and Rescue with a member from the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 4658. The request is in accordance with the terms of the recent collective bargaining agreement. Commissioners approved a request for a public hearing that is tentatively scheduled on Tuesday, Dec. 18, which will be confirmed at the discretion of the new Board of Commissioners after they are sworn into office.

Work Session

Commissioners held a work session to consider the 2019 [preliminary legislative package for the General Assembly](#). Proposals were presented by the Charles County Sheriff's Office, Board of License Commissioners, and the Homeowners Association Resolution Dispute Board. The legislative package will be considered for approval after Dec. 4, once the new Board of Commissioners is sworn into office.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held to receive comments on [Docket #90](#). Docket #90 proposed amendments to the Master Plan for Villages of Wooded Glen and Piney Reach in the St. Charles Planned Unit Development that would reduce the number of permitted housing units and clarify the school allocation policy. Following the public hearing, Commissioners voted to approve the amendments.

Recognition

Commissioners visited J.C. Parks Elementary School students to present approved legislation banning the use of plastic straws and stirrers at Charles County businesses. Students at the school advocated for the elimination of plastic straws and decreased their use by 5,500 straws per month. Eliminating plastic straws at local businesses will help reduce plastic waste that ends up as litter along roadways and waste pollution in waterways.

Next Commissioners Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 27, beginning at 11 a.m. Prior to open session, a farewell breakfast for the outgoing Board of Commissioners will be held in the Government Building Conference Room, beginning at 10 a.m.

For More Information:

Commissioners meetings are aired on CCGTV, which broadcasts on Comcast channel 95 and Verizon channel 10, and are available for streaming at www.CharlesCountyMD.gov/media-services/ccgtv/ccgtv. Materials and minutes of the Commissioners meeting will be posted at www.boarddocs.com/md/chrlsco/Board.nsf/Public upon approval.

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