

August 27, 2019

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

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Pursuant to Section 10-503(c) of the State Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*, the County Commissioners went into closed session for the purpose of conducting an administrative function meeting; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, at 5:25 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. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, County Administrator; Ms. Margie Houck, Executive Assistant.

The Board discussed the President and Vice President for the Board of License Commissioners.

**In Open Session:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint Joyce Jones as president and Thomas Beery as Vice President of the Board of License Commissioners.

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

## **MINUTES:**

On a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the Agenda for the current meeting and the minutes of August 13, 2019.

## **PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

1. Don Gross – In favor of increasing Bennett Point speed limit
2. Kathy Deoudes – Not in favor of increasing Bennett Point speed limit
3. Michelle O’Brien– Not in favor of increasing Bennett Point speed limit
4. Dan Jarzynski - In favor of increasing Bennett Point speed limit
5. Margaret Schroertz – Not in favor of increasing Bennett Point speed limit

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

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

## **BENNETT POINT SPEED LIMIT REVIEW AND UPDATE:**

Mr. Shane Moore, Chief Roads Engineer, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Bennett Point Speed Limit Review and Update.

In 2004, the Roads Division completed a Safety Audit/Speed Limit Evaluation Study of Bennett Point Road based on numerous citizen complaints and concerns from the Board of Education and the Sheriff’s Office. The results of the 2004 study served to lower the speed limit from 50 mph to 35 mph in the area defined from south of the Bennett Point Store to the entrance of the Bennett Point Community and from 35 mph to 30 mph in the area defined as the entrance of the Bennett Point Community south to the end of Bennett Point Road.

The 2004 concerns from the Board of Education focused on the number of bus stops and complaints from bus drivers and citizens regarding speeding drivers unsafely passing buses stopped at school bus stops. The Sheriff’s Office and citizen’s complaints focused on speeding and several recent accidents.

As indicated in the original 2004 study, the portion of Bennett Point Road, known as section “C”, geometrically can be driven at 50 mph. however there was consideration for the number of access points including intersecting roads, residential driveways and farm entrances.

Staff referred to guidance from the Maryland Vehicle Law for subsections 21-801.1 maximum speed limits and 21-803 alteration of maximum speed limit by local authorities. Though a majority of Bennett Point Road is considered a minor collector, this portion has numerous residences and access points along the roadway.

There were several citizen complaints from the Bennett Point Community as a result of the 2004 lowering of the Bennett Point Road speed limit. At the request of the County Commissioners, information used in the determination of the 2004 speed limit reposting was submitted to State Highway Administration District-2 on December 13, 2005 for review and comment.

Mr. Charlie Coppage of SHA District-2 reviewed the package and concurred with the methodology, conclusions and postings. As a courtesy, Mr. Coppage agreed to complete a radar test to determine the 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile speed of vehicles traveling in the section of Bennett Point Road aforementioned as section "C". The 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile test is another tool often used to set the speed limit of a roadway. North and southbound radar data was collected on March 15, 2006 at the intersection of Bennett Point and Greenwood Creek Road.

Results of the radar tests indicated an average southbound speed of 43.1 mph and northbound speed of 44.3 mph. The 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile speed was 50 mph, which indicates that 85% of the motorists travel this portion of Bennett Point Road at or below 50 mph and 15% drive in excess of 50 mph.

Based solely on the 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile findings, the speed limit of Bennett Point Road known as section "C" may be increased up to but not exceed 50 mph, therefore 40 mph and 45 mph are acceptable posting alternatives.

In discussions with SHA regarding the 2006 findings, SHA recommended any increase in speed limit should also include new signage alerting motorists to school bus stops.

The SHA findings were presented to the Commissioners on March 23, 2006. At that time no action was taken to revise the speed limit on this portion of Bennett Point Road.

A new 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile speed limit study was completed on February 27th and 28th of 2018 at the same location of 2006 SHA study. Results of the radar tests indicated an average southbound speed of 44.9 mph and northbound speed of 47.4 mph. The 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile speed was 50 mph. which indicates that 85% of the motorists travel this portion of Bennett Point Road at or below 50 mph and 15% drive in excess of 50 mph. These results are consistent with the 2006 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile study.

The 2018, 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile findings were presented to the Commissioners on March 13, 2018. At that time no action was taken to revise the speed limit on this portion of Bennett Point Road.

We have reached out to the Board of Education and for the 2019-2020 school year there are 11 elementary, 6 middle school and 14 high school eligible school bus stops on Bennett Point Road. In addition, the Office of the Sheriffs Law Enforcement and Statistical Overview for Bennett Point Road for the period of January 2016 - January 2019, which includes accident and exceeding the posted speed limit data.

Both the 2006 and 2018 radar studies indicated that motorists travel this section of Bennett Point Road at an approximate average speed of 45 mph with an 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile speed of 50 mph. Based solely on the 85<sup>th</sup>-percentile findings, the speed limit of Bennett Point Road known as section “C” may be increased up to but not exceed 50 mph, therefore 40 mph and 45 mph are acceptable posting alternatives.

On a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed keep the speed limit on Bennett Point Road as it is. As part of the motion, Commissioners Moran, S. Wilson, Dumenil, Corchiarino and J. Wilson made comments on this topic.

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 589D, Grid 24, Parcel 120, 3809 Main Street, Grasonville (\$235.00)
- Map 58E, Grid 04, Parcel 568, 938 Chester River Drive, Grasonville (\$205.00)
- Map 581, Grid 23, Parcel 380, 113 Watkins Road, Grasonville (\$204.00)
- Map 10, Grid 46, Parcel 622, 103 Creston Drive, Chestertown (\$350.00)
- Map 49, Grid 00, Parcel 38, 918 Petinot Place, Stevensville (\$235.00)

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 S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to approve Resolutions 19-28, 19-29, 19-30, 19-31 and 19-32 to place a lien on each of the properties listed in the County Zoning Administrator’s memorandum dated August 27, 2019 for nuisance violations. As part of the motion, Commissioner Dumenil made comments on this topic.

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

**EQUITABLE SHARING AGREEMENT & CERTIFICATION:**

Ms. Teresa Ward, Department of Budget, Finance & Information Technology, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Queen Anne’s County Sheriff’s Office and Drug Task Force.

The Board reviewed the Annual Certification Report that is filed with the Department of Justice every August. In prior years, the Sheriff’s Office received Confiscated Federal Funds and we were required to report how this money was spent. The Sheriff’s Office didn’t receive any federally confiscated funds during FY19 nor did they have a beginning balance; however, this report must be submitted if the Sheriff’s Office still wants to participate in the Equitable Shared Program and receive funds in the future.

On a motion made by Commissioner S. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Queen Anne’s County Sheriff’s Office.

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

The Board reviewed the Annual Certification Report that is filed with the Department of Justice every August. In prior years, the Drug Task Force received Confiscated Federal Funds and we are required to report how this money is being spent. There are no County funds included in this report - it is all Federal money.

On a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification for the Queen Anne’s County Drug Task Force.

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

**CAD CONSULTANT AND PROJECT MANAGER:**

Mr. Jim Alfree, Assistant Chief of Communications, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, CAD Consultant and Project Manager.

The Department of Emergency Services received ten sealed proposals, which were opened on July 12, 2019, for a consultant to assist with the procurement of a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD).

The CAD will include a Law Enforcement Records Management System (LERMS), a Jail Records Management System (JMS), and a Fire Records Management System (FRMS) to be used by all of the county's public safety agencies. The selected consultant will coordinate with each of the public safety agencies to determine their needs and priorities and will assist the department with writing the RFP, in addition to helping with vendor demonstrations and contract negotiations to secure the best possible cost on behalf of the county. Consultant proposals included pricing to complete Phases I - III (Kickoff Needs Assessment, RFP Development, and Contract Negotiations) and through Phase-IV (final implementation). Proposals were solicited per the County's procurement policy, and the bids were received as follows:

Vendor	Location	Fee Phase I-III	Fee Phase IV	Total
Winbourne	VA	\$89,500	Did Not Bid	\$89,500
Deltawrx	CA	\$169,248	Did Not Bid	\$169,248
TSSI	PA	\$89,050	\$82,250	\$171,300
NPSG	NC	\$98,240	\$76,750	\$174,990
Berry Dunn	ME	\$84,180	\$124,720	\$208,920
Federal Engineering	VA	\$166,728	\$118,800	\$285,528
Mission Critical Partners	PA	\$137,618	\$168,812	\$306,430
AER Consulting	NJ	\$267,300	\$118,250	\$385,550
CNC Consulting	NJ	\$291,200	\$291,200	\$582,400

The proposal received by Technology Security Support Implementation (TSSI) meets the project requirements and offers the lowest total project cost. Funding has been approved in the

FY2020 budget to cover Phases I-III of the CAD Consultant capital project, number 400931. Departmental Command Staff recommends awarding the contract to Technical Security Support Implementation (TSSI) of Pittsburgh, PA.

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to authorize the Director of the Department of Emergency Services to execute a contract with Technology Security Support Implementation to provide consulting and project management in regards to the selection of a Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System(s) for \$89,050, to complete Phase I-III of the project. As part of the motion, Commissioner S. Wilson made comments on this topic.

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

**RESILIENCY PLANNING & FINANCING:**

Ms. Amy G. Moredock, Principal Planner, submitted to the Board for their review and approval, Resiliency Planning and Financing.

Having committed to participation in the University of Maryland’s Resiliency Planning and Financing project for Global Sustainability, Queen Anne’s County now must select key individuals to staff a Queen Anne’s County Workgroup to carry out the project charge.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Workgroup Members

Citing the University of Maryland’s guidance document: Each County is expected to assign key individuals to represent the County. These individuals may come from community development, planning, public works, communications, energy, transportation, or environmental organizations. They can or should also include those individuals who attended the Maryland Climate Leadership Academy [Cohn Quinn and I attended the Academy]. Up to five people who receive full support from executive level at the County should represent the County at individual county meetings, as well as at scheduled Resiliency Planning and Financing meetings. These individuals should be dedicated to representing the County’s best interests and be willing to know where and how to get the needed answers to help the process move forward in a timely manner.

Staff has produced the following list of suggested participants for consideration and has appointment letters for signature:

- Jim Bass (Coastal Resilience Program Manager/Eastern Shore Land Conservancy)

- Steve Cohoon (Public Facilities Planner, Department of Public Works)
- Lee Edgar (Chief of Engineering, DPW)
- Jay Falstad (Executive Director, Queen Anne's Conservation Association)
- Tom Leigh (Planning Commission member/Clean Water Expert/circuit rider)
- Eric Johnson (Emergency Planner, Emergency Services)
- John Kling (Floodplain Manager, DPW)
- Amy Moredock\* (Principal Planner, Planning and Zoning)
- Cohn Quinn (Parks and Recreation)

\*I will serve as QAC Workgroup Chair.

## 2. Workgroup Charge and Timeline

The QAC Workgroup will be charged with the completion of the tasks outlined in the University of Maryland's guidance document as follows (staff has attached a Roster and Charge document to accompany the appointment letters):

- Understanding County Assets. An inventory that characterizes the county's social and built environment characteristics will be completed. The results will show what defines the county as being unique, both positively and negatively. The assets will be categorized and prioritized. Timeline: August 2019 - September 2019
- Determining Goals and Objectives. Once the social, and built environment characteristics are identified, many of the goals and objectives will start to emerge and allow the workgroup to finalize priorities and timelines for short-, medium-, and long-term solutions. This will also include the framework for financing that will become more robust in future phases. Timeline: September 2019 - October 2019
- Developing the Elements of a Plan. The counties will prioritize individual and collective climate actions, Timeline: October 2019-December 2019
- Gaining Feedback, Review and Approval. Once the Resilience Plans are drafted, they will be shared with stakeholders across all of the counties and include engaging state and federal partners. There will be a summary of collaborative opportunities identified where the counties can promote cooperation and collaboration as they pursue joint funding and financing. Timeline: December 2019 - January 2020.
- Future Step: Resilience Financing. After the Plan has been vetted by county stakeholders and finalized, the financing information obtained from steps listed above will be used to develop the framework for a financing strategy for each county along with opportunities identified and developed for all participating counties. The second phase beginning in early 2020 will primarily focus on financing and will result in a clear understanding of each county's financial capacity of needs relating to their implementation strategy. It will also include sharing lessons learned from the process with other counties in Maryland, as well as other states in the Mid-Atlantic and beyond. Timeline: January 2020-December 2020.

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the list of suggested workgroup participants and send appointment letters to each member and to approve the workgroup charge and project timeline.

As part of the motion, Commissioners Moran, J. Wilson and Dumenil made comments on this topic.

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

**BUDGET AMENDMENT:**

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner J. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to approve Budget Amendment CC-5.

#	CC-5						Date	8/9/2019
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY REQUEST FOR BUDGET AMENDMENT FY2020								
Description of expenditure/revenue accounts to increase/(decrease):							Fund	Increase (Decrease) Amount
							Account Code	
<b>1. Increase Outreach and Emergency Shelter Grant</b>								
Increase	Homeless Solutions Program	State Community Development Grants	708	708030	33205		\$ 1,803	
<b>Net Increase in Revenue</b>							<b>\$ 1,803</b>	
Increase	Homeless Solutions Program	Emergency Fund	708	708030	8610		\$ 1,803	
<b>Net Increase in Expenditures</b>							<b>\$ 1,803</b>	
<b>Net Increase in Activity</b>							<b>\$ 1,803</b>	
<b>2. Increase Housing Stabilization and Rapid Re-Housing Grant</b>								
Increase	HSP-HSS Rapid Re-Housing	State Community Development Grants	708	708040	33205		\$ 33,608	
Increase	HSP-HSS Rapid Re-Housing	Federal Community Development Grant	708	708040	32185		\$ 10,504	
<b>Net Increase in Revenue</b>							<b>\$ 44,112</b>	
Increase	HSP-HSS Rapid Re-Housing	Rent	708	708040	8125		\$ 29,894	
Increase	HSP-HSS Rapid Re-Housing	Emergency Fund	708	708040	8610		\$ 14,218	
<b>Net Increase in Expenditures</b>							<b>\$ 44,112</b>	
<b>Net Increase in Activity</b>							<b>\$ 44,112</b>	
<b>3. Increase Homelessness Prevention Grant Award</b>								
Increase	HSP-HSS Homeless Prevention	State Community Development Grants	708	708050	33205		\$ 3,757	

Decrease	HSP-HSS Homeless Prevention	Federal Community Development Grant	708	708050	32185		\$	(7,708)
							<b>Net Decrease in Revenue</b>	<b>\$ (3,951)</b>
Decrease	HSP-HSS Homeless Prevention	Rent	708	708050	8125		\$	(28,166)
Increase	HSP-HSS Homeless Prevention	Emergency Fund	708	708050	8610		\$	24,215
							<b>Net Decrease in Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ (3,951)</b>
							<b>Net Increase in Activity</b>	<b>\$ (3,951)</b>
							<b>Total Increase in Housing Fund 708</b>	<b>\$ 41,964</b>
<b>Justification:</b>								
This amendment adjusts the budget for Housing & Community Services Homeless Services grant based on the FY20 actual grant award and also for the FY19 carryover amounts.								
The original budget for these three grants was \$133,996 plus this amendment of \$41,964 equals the adjusted total of \$175,960.								
NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUESTED								

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

**LOCAL BUSINESS TRAFFIC SURVEY:**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to sign the Local Business Traffic Survey.

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

**CHESAPEAKE BAY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER UPDATE:**

Ms. Judy Wink presented to the Board for their review, Background Information on The Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. (AKA Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center).

The mission of the Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. and its' physical site, the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (CBEC), is to promote stewardship and sustainability through environmental education, habitat restoration and recreational opportunities.

- Open to the public 9-5 daily with free admission: Annual visitation is over 30,000 people both US and foreign

- Annually provides over 40,000 hours of instruction and hands-on activities to youth & adults from all over the Chesapeake Bay watershed including Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware and D.C.
- Works with Title-1 Schools and delivers the most environmental education programs out of any other NGO to the residents of the Eastern Shore.
- Generates over 200K in business to QAC entities via events and as a wedding venue
- Has hosted over 17 foreign delegations through the state department on habitat restoration techniques and environmental education practices and curriculums
- Annual Budget is under \$1 million.

Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. is committed to:

- protecting & managing critical wildlife habitat through best management practices
- offering top-notch environmental education programs for children & adults
- engaging in habitat restoration & Bay-related research
- inspiring stewardship through volunteerism, education and BMPs.
- connecting people to nature through recreational activities

Our exemplary education programs aligning with Maryland standards employ a multi-disciplinary approach to learning and “bring to life” complex concepts in ecology, biology and environmental science by fully engaging students of all ages in practical and fun activities. CBEC provided a spectrum of outstanding interactive educational programs throughout the year for both children and adults, including:

- On-site Field Trips & In-School Outreach Programs Grades K-12: over 9000 students annually
- Creepy Crawlers: Nature Exploration for toddlers ages 2-5
- Creepy Crawlers Organic Gardening for toddlers
- “Schools Out Camp” during teacher in-service days
- Eco Summer Camps: Day camps with varying themes that host over 300 kids
- College internships throughout the year
- AREOKAT/ Rover Education Network (AREN) Project: 2nd Year of STEM Education Initiative for middle and high school students in partnership with NASA. Students use kites and remotely operated vehicles to gather data on environmental changes in plant diversity, water quality and wildlife populations found in the marsh, forest and bay. Teacher/Citizen Scientist trainings are also offered throughout the year.
- Legacy Institute for the Environment (LIFE): 14th year of adult life-long learning classes focused on Bay issues and volunteerism. Each participant receives 12-weeks of in-depth instruction then donates 100 hours of service to CBEC. To date the program has graduated 175 volunteers.
- Critters & Cocktails: Lively Adult Wildlife Lectures Series held during the winter
- Maryland Master Naturalist: 2nd Year of program in partnership with the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension. This training program focuses on volunteers who want to learn about the natural histories of animals and plants in Maryland. Certified Maryland

Master Naturalists help preserve and share the state's environmental wealth and each participant receives 60 hours of classroom and field training. In return, graduates donate 40 hours of service to CBEC. Since 2016, CBEC graduated 43 volunteers.

Annually, we provide over 40,000 hours of instruction and hands-on activities to youth & adults from all over the Chesapeake Bay watershed including Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware and D.C. CBEC works with many Title-1 Schools and delivers the most environmental education programs out of any other NGO to the residents of the Eastern Shore.

Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. works with individuals, public and private organizations, state and Federal agencies and local businesses to conduct on and off-site research and habitat restoration projects. Partnerships with NOAA, NASA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Maryland DNR, Washington College, Harris Seafood Company and other organizations are ongoing and enable us to expand our contributions to conservation in the Chesapeake Bay region.

Research and restoration efforts initiated include:

- **Aquaponics Project:** Installed a 42' geodome that houses a closed system for raising plants and fish. The project demonstrates sustainable agriculture practices 365 days a year and provide solutions to resident's community food deserts. CBEC provides the harvest to a local charity, Haven Ministries, for distribution to homeless/low socio-economic residents.
- **Oyster Leasing:** Established a 2.8-acre bottom leasing area in order to generate our own CBEC brand of oyster which will be sold to the local restaurants within the Kent Narrows. Partners include Harris Seafood and company and local QAC Watermen. (2 years in existence.)
- **Reef Balls & Oyster Restoration:** In 2005, CBEC established a 287-acre oyster sanctuary area known as the Cabin Creek Sanctuary. The reef systems were established for fish and oyster habitat using various substrates and utilizing state and Federal partners. To date 10 million oysters have been restored in this area. Partners for the project included MD DNR, NOAA and USFWS.
- **Meadow Restoration:** Converted 1.3 acres to a pollinator meadow using a native wildflower and grass seed mix to benefit butterflies, bees and birds.
- **Wye River Water Quality Study:** The goal of the study was to identify potential pollutant sources from the headwaters of the upper Wye River and particularly non-tidal tributaries located in Queen Anne's County.
- **Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV):** Work in partnership with Anne Arundel Community College in SAV research and harvesting.
- **Living Shoreline Demonstration:** CBEC was the first area in the state of Maryland to demonstrate the living shoreline restoration methods. A 400-linear foot section of bulk headed shoreline was restored for wildlife habitat in 2002-2003. Partners included MD DNR, NOAA and USFWS. CBEC has also been hired for shoreline plantings for many private homeowners and developments from Cambridge to Annapolis.

- Phragmites Control Efforts: Work in partnership with MD DNR and USFWS to control 200 acres of invasive plants.
- Waterfowl Habitat Enhancements: Restoring 24-acre freshwater lake for waterfowl habitat. CBEC is an important stopover and birding area for thousands of migrating waterfowl. Twenty-four species of waterfowl can be observed on the property throughout the year including Black Ducks. CBEC also has grass beds and shellfish populations on both sides of the peninsula to support these large populations in the winter.
- Wildlife Conservation: CBEC performs over 30 wildlife rescues throughout the year for residents of QAC. Other services to the county and its residents include wildlife consulting and nest box placement for bluebirds, wood ducks, screech owls and osprey.
- Gibson's Grant and other Developments: Work with give advice to developers on environmental plans for any development in QAC. Manage a 55-acre site on the Gibson Grant property which includes tree care, trail maintenance, nest box monitoring and addressing wildlife issues from the HOA.

Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. volunteers contribute over 10,000 hours of service towards restoration and education projects annually. Our volunteers assist with: educational programs & events, wildlife monitoring, invasive plant species control, facility maintenance and clerical work.

Eagle Scout Badge Work: Over 7 Eagle Scouts have earned their badges and have raised over \$20K in funds to construct bird blinds, boardwalks and observation platforms to be used by all visitors.

The 510-acre picturesque CBEC peninsula provides multiple recreational activities as well as wildlife watching opportunities for people of all ages and abilities such as:

- 4 miles of hiking trail with boardwalks & observation decks
- Bird watching over 200 species & bird blinds
- Kayaking: guided and self-guided trips
- Photography
- Geocaching
- Picnicking
- American Canoe Association (ACA) Accredited Classes offered for paddling and lifesaving skills
- Guided hiking tours
- 8 Captive Birds of Prey for educational programs as well as visitor encounters

Facility and visitor services improvements:

- The launch of the new Lakeside Pavilion Capital Campaign to replace the old pavilion overlooking Lake Knapp. The new pavilion will be the hub of 75% of our program activities and be usable year-round.

- In the process of developing a master site plan for future development to include a visitor center and offices. Currently seeking funding options.
- In 2018 prepared a 5-year Strategic Plan
- RH Smith Business School prepared a 5-year Business Plan for Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. in 2019.
- Wildfowl Trust of North America, Inc. is an economic generator for QAC through bringing weddings, conferences and special events to the county.

## **CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:**

Mr. James F. Ports, Jr., Maryland Transportation Authority Executive Director, presented to the Board for their review, Chesapeake Bay Bridge Construction Update.

BB-2819: Westbound Bay Bridge (WPL) Deck Rehabilitation & Misc. Modifications

### Existing WB Bay Bridge

- Constructed in 1973 – 21,051 LF ± of structure with 122 spans
- Two-lanes with curb-to-curb width of 38 FT ±
- WB Deck and Overlay Replacement history
- 2002 to 2004 – replaced decks in select beam & girder spans (est. 21% of area) and micro-silica fume (MS) overlays of all other spans, except Suspension & Thru Truss spans.
- 2004 to 2005 – replaced portions of Center and Left Lanes having defective MS overlays with new latex modified concrete (LMC) overlays (est. 33% of area). Right lane not replaced.
- 2007 to 2010 – replaced deck and floor system of Suspension & Thru Truss spans (est. 21% of area).

### Purpose and Need

- Deck Condition Study and Biennial Inspections indicate Right Lane is significantly in need of repair:
- Span B13A – 75% of deck needs repair
- Many Spans – 50% of deck needs repair
- Studies performed include nondestructive testing (NDT) to determine extent needed deck repairs
- NDT program findings indicate internal repair needs
- Physical soundings, inspection and coring program performed to validate NDT
- Significant history of patching of the existing Right Lane

### Rehabilitation Alternatives

<b>DECK REPLACEMENT VS. OVERLAY</b>		
<b>Consideration</b>	<b>Overlay</b>	<b>Deck Replacement</b>
Scope of Work	LMC Overlay Right Lane & Seal Center and Left Lanes (silane)	Replace Deck in All Lanes (must replace all lanes at one time)
Service Life	10-15 years	25+ years
Cost	\$30M	\$200M (estimated)
Duration	2 years (Overlay during fall / spring only)	5+ years (Deck Replacement can be done fall, spring, and winter)
Impact to Motorists	Major (Right Lane Closure)	Severe (Closures in all lanes with split traffic)

#### Overall Scope of Work

- Replace Existing Right Lane Overlay (Approx. 19% of Deck Area)
  - Remove existing MS Overlay and replace with LMC
  - Full-Time Barrier Separated Lane Closure
  - Nighttime Full Bridge Closures / Daytime Lane Closures
- Complete Localized Deck Repairs in Center and Left Lanes
- Seal the entire bridge deck
- Complete Priority Repairs
- Upgrade and Replace existing Lane Use Signals and gantries
- Replace rail posts

#### Prior Westbound Bay Bridge Overlay Experience

- Barrier permitted between October to April, except during Thanksgiving
- Complex MOT schedule, requiring removal of barrier during higher traffic periods
- Contractor provided incident response tow truck
- Restricted wide load hours during construction
- Provided a dedicated ramp lane at MD 8 to mitigate Kent Island impacts, when appropriate
- Congestion during construction was frequently significant in both directions during normal conditions

#### Anticipated Traffic Impacts

- Current operational policies for lane closures designed to limit backups during normal conditions

- Lane closure policies must be modified to complete this construction
- Queues during construction period estimated to be up to 3 miles during normal conditions
- Severe daily congestion on both mainline US 50 and local roads
- Challenges for locals and emergency services during barrier closure periods
- Queues longer during holidays, incidents and poor weather
- Requires extensive public outreach to avoid much more severe estimated impacts
- Despite the traffic challenges, MDTA successfully managed the prior overlay contracts
- Contraflow restricted while barrier in place
  - Limited Available Lane Widths During Construction (11 Ft. Lanes)
  - Contraflow for Emergencies Only
- Concurrent short-term daytime adjacent lane closures for material delivery/drop offs
- Nightly full bridge Westbound closures
- Staging of wide-load vehicles

#### Schedule Risks

- Weather Impacts (e.g. high winds and/or cold temperatures reduces productivity)
- Additional Deck Deterioration (e.g. more full depth patching and/or rebar repairs)
- Changed Conditions (e.g. existing overlay deeper than cores show)

<b>CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES</b>				
	<b>Milling Operations</b>	<b>LMC Placement</b>	<b>Deck Grooving</b>	<b>Deck Sealing</b>
<b>September</b>	✓	✓	✓	--
<b>October</b>	✓	✓	✓	--
<b>November</b>	✓	✓	✓	--
<b>December</b>	✓	X	✓	--
<b>January</b>	✓	X	✓	--
<b>February</b>	✓	X	✓	--
<b>March</b>	✓	X	✓	--
<b>April</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>May</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>June</b>	--	--	--	✓
<b>July</b>	--	--	--	✓
<b>August</b>	--	--	--	✓

#### Planned Project Construction Schedule

##### Major Benefits:

- Construction schedule realistic to account for weather risks
- Low risk of incomplete work before Summer periods

- Avoids conflicts with other ongoing WB major projects
- Consistent with prior construction experiences and traffic impacts
- Provides a safe work area for the contractor and safe passage for our customers

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, Maryland held a public hearing at 6:15 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Meeting Room in the Liberty Building, 107 N Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland 21617 to receive public comments on Agricultural Land Preservation Easement Applications.

Kurt Babe  
 Hope Road, Centreville  
 Third Election District  
 Tax Map 45, Parcel 49 ~ 56.445 Acres

Blackdog Farms at Kingsdale LLC  
 Kingsdale Farm lane, Queen Anne  
 Sixth Election District  
 Tax Map 68, Parcel 11 ~ 148.0 Acres

The Coleman Hedgewood Farm LLC  
 Coleman Road, Sudlersville  
 First Election District  
 Tax Map 12, Parcel 24 ~ 160.499 Acres

Pippin LLC  
 Palmatarys Farm Lane, Church Hill  
 Second Election District  
 Tax Map 23, Parcel 30 ~ 162.04 Acres

Starr Realty LLC and William E Jackson  
 Starr Road, Queen Anne  
 Sixth Election District  
 Tax Map 69, Parcel 4 ~ 158.085 Acres

Truitt Farm LLC  
 Millington Road, Barclay  
 First Election District  
 Tax Map 6, Parcel 39 ~ 103.858 Acres

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the six MALPF easement applications be submitted to the MALPF Board of Trustees for approval and submission for appraisal.

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

**CHOPTANK ELECTRIC UPDATE:**

Mr. Matthew Tefteau, Government Relations Manager; Mr. Mike Malandro, President and CEO; and Ms. Valerie Connelly, Vice President of Government and Public Relations; presented to the Board for their review, Choptank Electric Update.

In Maryland, 36% of residents lack internet service that meets FCC standards – most are in rural areas, like the Eastern Shore.

1. There are 11,834 businesses on the Eastern Shore. Many are home-based. Small and medium-sized businesses grow faster with high-speed Internet.
2. Telemedicine can solve rural healthcare shortages but is only possible with broadband.
3. Agriculture is critical to the Eastern Shore. High-speed internet to run modern equipment will improve yields while reducing nutrient use - helping us meet our Chesapeake Bay Restoration goals.
4. Enhanced educational opportunities (dual enrollment, complete homework, check grades/lunch account) and workforce development (online training & job search) support economic development on the Eastern Shore.
5. Broadband on the Shore is either not present (coaxial cable), not affordable (wireless systems), or not reliable (satellite service) in rural areas.
6. Lack of broadband is the #1 complaint of Eastern Shore residents.

Why Choptank Electric Cooperative?

- We have 650 miles of middle-mile fiber installed
- If authorized, we can leverage existing assets and staff to deliver service
- If authorized, we can immediately seek federal grant funding that will be available to deliver last-mile broadband service
- If authorized, we can use our economy-of-scale to bring the most efficient and economically viable broadband service to our members
- Choptank is a trusted community partner - with a proven record of serving Shore residents with reliability and integrity.

What do we need to make this happen?

In 2019, MGA authorized the use of existing electric service easements and rights-of-way to deliver broadband fiber. The next step is allowing Member Regulation of the Cooperative.

This will:

- Allow our members to control the use of assets and staff to deliver broadband.
- Put us on par with 83% of the nation's 825 cooperatives in 36 states, including Delaware
- Eliminate duplicative regulation
- Eliminate duplicative cost

Will there be accountability?

Absolutely. Co-ops have built-in accountability because:

1. the Board is democratically elected from among the membership,
2. "shareholders" and "customers" are one in the same, and
3. a co-op is a not-for-profit entity in which profits are returned to the members - so there is no incentive to raise rates.

Member Regulation will:

- Allow the customer/owners of Choptank to decide whether to run broadband fiber to all homes and businesses in our rural area – or wait for one of the big companies to offer service once we reach a density of 12 homes per mile of wire – which is unlikely in a large part of our rural service area.
- Allow the customer/owners to use the equity in the not-for-profit cooperative they built to deliver the "last-mile" infrastructure for broadband they need now.
- Allow the customer/owners to compete for their fair-share of \$20 Billion the FCC will distribute next year - with a preference for co-ops - to deliver broadband to rural areas  
Allow the customer/owners to more efficiently share the assets, borrowing power and employees of their co-op.
- Allow the customer/owners to decide how to price all of the services offered by their co-op – in a way that meets the unique needs of low-income rural homeowners, farmers, home-based entrepreneurs, and new businesses our communities hope to attract.
- Allow the customer/owners to give up the decades-long wait for another provider and finally give themselves the opportunities that come from connectivity to the world through broadband.

What can you do to help?

- Members/Owners of CEC can register your support for broadband service. Let us know how your life would improve with reliable, high speed internet.
- Local Government Officials can send letters of support to help Choptank achieve Member Regulation in the 2020 General Assembly Session.
- Local Economic Development experts can help us identify all the ways your community will be improved with broadband.
- Parents, teachers and school administrators can help by letting us know how students could be better served with access to the global community right in their own homes.

- Shop owners, farmers, hospitality professionals, doctors, nurses and those in need of top-notch services on the Shore – tell us how Broadband service would improve your community and your quality of life.
- Retirees who want to enjoy life away from the hustle-bustle of the city but still want to keep up with family and friends, let us know if Broadband is for you.

## **UPPER SHORE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD UPDATE:**

Mr. Dan McDermott, Executive Director, presented to the Board for their review, Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board Update.

### Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board Background

- 1983- Present: Came into existence July 1, 1983
- Structure: 501 c3 Non-Profit
- Chesapeake College is the Board's Fiscal Agent
- Implements and administers federal and state funds for employment and training
- Major program: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- Fiscal and Performance Integrity: 36 years of clean audits, achieving performance
- Recertified by the Governor every 2 years

### County Concurrence on USWIB documents

- Verifies for Governor, United States Department of Labor that there is a relationship between the Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board and the Counties
- Assures that the County Commissions and Councils have a role in how services are delivered in the County

### Concurrence of the County

- Appointment of members
- Submission of Local Plan
- Submission of Regional Plan
- Memorandum of Understanding One Stop Partners

### Memorandum of Understanding for the American Job Center(s)

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 201 The United States Department of Labor

§ 678.500 What is the Memorandum of Understanding for the one-stop delivery system and what must be included in the Memorandum of Understanding?

- (a) The MOU is the product of local discussion and negotiation
- (b) The MOU is an agreement developed and executed between the Local Workforce Development Board and the American Job Center Partners with the agreement of the Chief Elected Official(s)
- (c) The MOU describes the operation of the American Job Centers in the local area.

- (d) The MOU must include:
- (1) A description of services to be provided through the American Job Center, including the manner in which the services will be coordinated and delivered through the Center(s);
  - (2) Agreement on funding the costs of the services and the operating costs of the Center(s), including:
    - (I) Funding of infrastructure costs of the American Job Centers
      - (ii) Funding of the shared services and operating costs of the American Job Center(s)
    - (3) Methods for referring individuals between the one-stop operator and American Job Center Partners for appropriate services and activities;
    - (4) Methods to ensure that the needs of workers, youth, and individuals with barriers to employment, including individuals with disabilities, are addressed in providing access to services, including access to technology and materials that are available through the American Job Center(s);
    - (5) The duration of the MOU and procedures for amending it; and
    - (6) Assurances that each MOU will be reviewed, and if substantial changes have occurred, renewed, not less than once every 3-year period to ensure appropriate funding and delivery of services.
  - (e) The MOU may contain any other provisions agreed to by the parties that are consistent with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I, the authorizing statutes and regulations of American Job Center Partner programs, and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act regulations.
  - (f) When fully executed, the MOU must contain the signatures of the Local Workforce Development Board, American Job Center Partners, the Chief Elected 27 Official(s), and the time period in which the agreement is effective. The MOU must be updated not less than every 3 years to reflect any changes in the signatory official of the Board, American Job Center Partners, and Chief Elected Officials, or one-stop infrastructure funding.
  - (g) If an American Job Center Partner appeals to the Governor regarding infrastructure costs, and the appeal results in a change to the American Job Center Partner's infrastructure cost contributions, the MOU must be updated to reflect the final one-stop partner infrastructure cost contributions.

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to sign Memorandum of Understanding.

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

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

Commissioner Moran introduced County Ordinance 19-05:

**A BILL ENTITLED**

**AN ACT CONCERNING the Amendment and Update of the Queen Anne's County Critical Area Maps;**

**FOR THE PURPOSE of adopting the comprehensive update of the Critical Area Buffer Exempt Area Maps by replacing the same with a digitally generated geo-referenced Modified Buffer Area mapping as part of the Queen Anne's County Critical Area Overlay Maps;**

**BY AMENDING the official Queen Anne's County Critical Area Maps by replacing the Critical Area Buffer Exempt Area Maps with the Modified Buffer Areas shown on the digitally generated geo-referenced Modified Buffer Area mapping.**

**SECTION I**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND that the Queen Anne's County Official Critical Area Overlay Maps be and are hereby AMENDED as respects Buffer Exempt Areas by REPLACING the Critical Area Buffer Exempt Area Maps with the digitally generated geo-referenced Modified Buffer Area mapping.**

Commissioner Corchiarino introduced Amendment 1 to County Ordinance 19-13:

**AN AMENDMENT TO  
A BILL ENTITLED**

**AN ACT CONCERNING the Prohibition of the Release of Non-Biodegradable Balloons within Queen Anne's County as set forth herein;**

**FOR THE PURPOSE of amending pending County Ordinance No. 19-13 to authorize the release of pilot balloons (pibals) in connection with the safe operation of hot air balloons;**

BY AMENDING pending County Ordinance No. 19-13.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND that pending County Ordinance 19-13 be and is hereby AMENDED to read as follows:

Article IV Release of Balloons

§13-14 Definitions.

Balloon

A. A nonporous bag of tough light material, generally latex or mylar, whether filled or unfilled.

Person

A. Any natural person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other organization or group, however organized.

§13-15. Release of Balloons Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to knowingly and intentionally release, organize the release of or intentionally cause to be released into the atmosphere of Queen Anne's County any Balloon unless such Balloon is either biodegradable or photodegradable.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) Balloon(s) released by or on behalf of any agency of the State of Maryland, or the United States or pursuant to a contract with the State of Maryland, the United States, or any other state, territory or government for scientific or meteorological purposes; (ii) hot air Balloon(s) that are recovered after launch; ~~or~~ (iii) the negligent and unintentional release of any Balloon(s); or (iv) Pilot balloons (pibal) released by hot air balloon pilots to determine meteorological conditions such as wind speed and direction.

§13-16 Violations and Penalties

**Any person who violates this Article shall be guilty of a civil infraction and subject to a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).**

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner S. Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to schedule a public hearing regarding Map Amendment 19-05 to the Queen Anne’s County Critical Area Program to update and expand Queen Anne’s County Modified Buffer Area.

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

On a motion made by Commissioner J. Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, the Board unanimously agreed to adopt County Ordinance 19-13.

*A BILL ENTITLED*

*AN ACT CONCERNING the Prohibition of the Release of Non-Biodegradable Balloons within Queen Anne’s County as set forth herein;*

*The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County find that the release into the atmosphere of large numbers of balloons inflated with lighter-than-air gases poses a danger and nuisance to the environment, agricultural industry, wildlife and marine animals;*

FOR THE PURPOSE of protecting the waters, animals and overall environment of Queen Anne’s County from the toxic impact of non-biodegradable balloons that are released within Queen Anne’s County by criminalizing the willing release of non-biodegradable balloons within Queen Anne’s County.

BY ADOPTING new sections 13-14 through 13-16 of a new Article IV of Chapter 13 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Queen Anne's County.

SECTION I

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND that the intentional release of non-biodegradable or non-photodegradable balloons in Queen Anne’s County is hereby prohibited through the

enactment of new sections 13-14 through 13-16 of a new Article IV entitled “Release of Balloons” of Chapter 13 of the Code of Public Local Laws be and is hereby ADOPTED to read as follows:

Article IV Release of Balloons

§13-14 Definitions.

Balloon

A. A nonporous bag of tough light material, generally latex or mylar, whether filled or unfilled.

Person

A. Any natural person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other organization or group, however organized.

§13-15. Release of Balloons Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to knowingly and intentionally release, organize the release of or intentionally cause to be released into the atmosphere of Queen Anne’s County any Balloon unless such Balloon is either biodegradable or photodegradable.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) Balloon(s) released by or on behalf of any agency of the State of Maryland, or the United States or pursuant to a contract with the State of Maryland, the United States, or any other state, territory or government for scientific or meteorological purposes; (ii) hot air Balloon(s) that are recovered after launch; or (iii) the negligent and unintentional release of any Balloon(s).

§13-16. Violations and Penalties

Any person who violates this Article shall be guilty of a civil infraction and subject to a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

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 Flastat – Glad the Board adopted 19-13

**COMMISSIONER’S ROUNDTABLE:**

Commissioner Corchiarino discussed the following:

- Attended the MACO Summer Conference
- Attended the AG Tour

Commissioner Dumenil discussed the following:

- QAC Goes Purple kick off at Kent Island Fire House, September 5 at 6:30 pm

Commissioner S. Wilson discussed the following:

- Felt the meeting in regards to traffic was good with the state regarding the bay bridge but they need to communicate better with our Sheriff’s and DES departments

Commissioner J. Wilson discussed the following:

- Asked if the Commissioners would wear purple at their next meeting for QAC Goes Purple
- Attended the MACo Summer Conference
- Elected officials are in support of Project Bright Future
- The Governor is putting money in Broadband
- Kirwan will be going through legislation

Commissioner Moran discussed the following:

- Attended the MACo Summer Conference
- QAC Goes Purple next week
- Haunted Trap House
- State is not giving the Board any answers regarding the traffic problems related to the bay bridge and congestion

There being no further business, they adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT