



## CALVERT COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION


205 Main Street  
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678  
410-535-1600, ext. 2501  
Fax: 410-414-3092  
www.calvertcountymd.gov

*Board of Commissioners*  
Mark C. Cox Sr.  
Catherine M. Grasso  
Earl F. Hance  
Mike Hart  
Todd Ireland

### Calvert County Environmental Commission August 28, 2023 Minutes

Attendance: Dr. Dave Campbell (Chair), Dave Hardy (Vice Chair), Jim Levin, Jo Anna Lutmerding, Dr. Andy Rogers, Mike Rooney  
Staff: Will Hager, Ron Marney, Amalia Pleake-Tamm      Public: Ron Klauda (Friends of Hunting Creek), Bob Estes (Friends of Hunting Creek)

- I. Call to Order at 6:17pm**
- II. Agenda for August 28, 2023:** Dr. Rogers moved to approve, Mr. Levin seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- III. Approval of Minutes from [July 31, 2023](#):** Mr. Klauda was concerned that the minutes were not detailed enough. Ms. Pleake-Tamm, Dr. Rogers, and Dr. Campbell replied that the minutes were to record business decisions and relevant comments on an as-needed basis. Dr. Rogers moved to approve July's minutes, Mr. Levin seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Guest Speaker:** Mr. Hager (Dept. of Planning & Zoning) spoke on the update of [Calvert County's Zoning Ordinance](#). The initial draft was produced in May, the second draft will come out sometime in 2024. The comments are divided into "due-date" sections to facilitate focus and provide comments to Commissioners on the sections under focus. However, comments received outside of due dates will still be considered.

He walked through the Update [website](#) with videos of the two prior public meetings, the Comparison documents (found along the right side of the webpage), the "Submit Feedback" link, and FAQs from received feedback. He showed the [map](#) including the legend, which is found under "Layers" in the bottom left, "Draft Zoning" and the icon  has a dropdown. The acronyms are defined in [Article 3](#)

Received comments will receive answers and be addressed, and shared with the Board of County Commissioners. If numerous comments are received on a particular concern, that amount of feedback will be considered. For example, many comments thus far have concerned the reconfigured residential district area around the Town Center. That was changed to be in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan but this discussion is ongoing.

Mr. Hager reviewed the proposed Critical Area article ([Proposed Article 22](#)). He highlighted the new expansion of the Critical Area buffer for contiguous steep slopes and administrative review of buffer disturbances under administrative variances, and a new section for renewable energy.

The proposed Marine & Water Dependent Facilities ([Proposed Article 23](#)) highlighted changes included revisions made at the State level, allowing private piers on undeveloped properties with a riparian right that are contiguous with a property that's lacking a riparian right, and restrictions for water-dependent facilities impacting the Critical Area buffer.

The proposed Floodplain ([Proposed Article 24](#)) includes an increased freeboard from two feet above the Base Flood Elevation to four feet above. Substantial improvements will be tracked for a ten-year period. Mr. Hager and Mr. Marney introduced the Community Rating System and [National Flood Insurance Program](#). All properties in Calvert County will have the opportunity to benefit from the NFIP. Ms. Pleake-Tamm stressed that this ordinance is more an insurance program rather than an environmental program. Stream buffers and environmental objectives are addressed elsewhere.

Maryland Relay for Impaired Hearing or Speech: 1-800-735-2258

1. The date, time, and location of any Environmental Commission meeting may be revised by announcement of an emergency, such as inclement weather, without further publication and may be confirmed on the County website or calling 410-535-1600 ext. 2727 on the date of the meeting.
2. Public comments during Environmental Commission Work Sessions are at the discretion of the Chairperson.
3. There may be a five-minute break at 7:00 p.m. at the discretion of the Chairperson.
4. A decision will be made at 8:00 p.m. whether to continue the meeting or reschedule.
5. Accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made with reasonable notice.
6. The Environmental Commission operates under *Robert's Rules*.

Mr. Hager mentioned that the natural resource article will include stronger environmental protections for new subdivisions (larger stream buffers, protections for steep slopes, and sensitive environmental features) and new forest conservation requirements from the state. This section will be reviewed later in the Update process.

-----In the interest of time, Strategic Initiatives were advanced-----

**V. Strategic Initiatives Update**

- a. Water Quality Initiative: Skipped as Mr. Britt was absent.
- b. Radon: Mr. Levin moved that the [new radon FAQ](#) should be released at the same time as the [January's proclamation](#). Dr. Rogers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- c. Pump for the Bay magnet design: Ms. Pleake-Tamm will request the quantity difference between 2"x4" and 3"x5." Dr. Rogers moved to do the following:
  - i. The Env. Comm'n logo itself can be deleted (keep "sponsored by the Calvert County Environmental Commission."
  - ii. The "Next Service" date, company and phone should be moved to the top.
  - iii. "Check out the QR Code for maintenance tips." (The Cloggers and Killers will be on the landing page from the QR code).Mr. Levin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Bird-safety update:** Ms. Lutmerding used the American Bird Conservancy for language to insert into the County Zoning Ordinance. She has a rough draft for lighting and will email it to Commissioners for review. She will also add language for building glass.

Ms. Lutmerding, Library Director Carrie Willson, Capital Projects Supervisor CJ Jones, and Electrical Inspector Jim Yorio met to discuss window film for the North Beach Library and possibly the Prince Frederick Library. Ms. Lutmerding is looking for price quotes. Mr. Klaurda offered Dr. Southerland is willing to help; the Environmental Commission will review the recommendations first and then may forward them to Dr. Southerland.

**VII. Small Business outreach:** Skipped as Mr. Matatov was absent.

-----In the interest of time, Public Education/Outreach was advanced-----

**VIII. Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Public Education/Outreach
  - i. Calvert County Fair Youth Day (Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 9–4; setup begins at 7:30, car must be out by 8:30. Ms. Pleake-Tamm will bring SWAG, the rain barrel, water quality test kit, QR poster, watershed model.  
7:30–9:30 (cars out by 8:30):  
9:30–11:30: Mr. Levin  
11:30–1:30:  
1:30–3:30:  
3:30–4:30:  
Ms. Pleake-Tamm will ask about parking and shuttles for mid-day shifts.
- b. FAQs: Mr. Levin is updating the FAQ on injured wildlife.
  - i. Existing FAQs: Mr. Levin moved to approve [eWaste Disposal](#), [Paint Disposal](#), [Air Quality](#), [Well-Water Maintenance](#), [Green Registry](#); Dr. Rogers seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
  - ii. Ms. Pleake-Tamm has Recycling and Reuse and will consult Mr. Levin's spreadsheet.
- c. 2023 Guest Speakers (CHAIR VACANCY): Mr. Levin invited Mary Hoover to speak on water sampling results from St. Leonard Creek. Ms. Pleake-Tamm will reach out to Dom Butchko from MD Ass'n of Counties for a look at upcoming environmental legislation. Mr. Klauda recommended Joe Burg from Biohabitats in Baltimore.

**IX. Sustainability Awards Program and Environmental Calendar:** Tabled for now.

**X. Recycling facility fieldtrip:** Ms. Pleake-Tamm will proceed looking into visiting the eWaste recycling facility in Virginia sometime in the fall. Commissioners will have to use their own vehicles.

**XI. [Zoning Ordinance Update](#):** Discussed during the Speaker section.

- XII. General Announcements:** Ms. Pleake-Tamm will confirm PRAD table, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> 10am–4pm.
- XIII. Mr. Levin moved to adjourn,** Dr. Rogers seconded, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

*Meeting Minutes were prepared by Amalia Pleake-Tamm (EC Secretary).*

DRAFT