

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
LSD 2025-20
October 21, 2025**

The County Council of Cecil County met in Legislative Session at the County Administration Building, Elk Room, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, MD. The following members of the Council were present:

Al Miller, Council President
Robert Meffley, Council Vice President
Rebecca Hamilton, Council Member
Donna Culberson, Council Member
Dawn Branch, Council Member

NOTE: The recording with transcription of this meeting is available on the County website at www.ccgov.org/council

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the County Council of Cecil County of October 21, 2025, was called to order by Council President Miller at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Manager Henson called the roll and noted that five members were present.

OPENING PRAYER/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pastor Richard Berry, Faith Southern Baptist Church, Elkton, offered the Opening Prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Vice President Meffley, the Council moved to approve the agenda of October 21, 2025. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS

a. Economic Development Week

Councilwoman Branch, on behalf of County Council, read the Economic Development Week Proclamation into the record of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Vice President Meffley, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Legislative Session of October 7, 2025.

Discussion

Councilwoman Hamilton stated that page (3) of the minutes of the Legislative Session of October 7, 2025 incorrectly indicated that Councilwoman Culberson stated that “development activity would be reviewed by LUDS and overseen by the EPA”. Councilwoman Hamilton stated that she had made the comment and requested a correction to the minutes.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Branch, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the minutes, as amended, of the Legislative Session of October 7, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y; Culberson – Y; Branch – Y; Meffley – Y; Miller – Y

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phyllis Kilby spoke in support of the proposed Recreation Center’s walking area for seniors and track events for High School students.

Megan Coleman spoke in support of the proposed Recreation Center’s planned use for indoor track events.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Branch thanked those in the audience for attending the meeting.

Councilwoman Branch stated she attended the Cecil County Chamber of Commerce Business by the Bonfire on October 9th, adding that the event is a great networking opportunity for businesses.

Councilwoman Branch stated she recently toured the Sun Med Growers facility in Warwick.

Councilwoman Branch stated several “Trunk or Treat” events have been scheduled throughout the county.

Vice President Meffley stated he and Councilwoman Culberson attended a meeting of the Commission on Veterans Affairs on October 15th, stating that the Commission is moving forward. He expressed his desire for representation from and coordination with service organizations including the Veterans Administration, VFW and American Legion, stating these are the best organizations to assist Veterans.

Vice President Meffley stated he attended a Low Vision Workshop which was coordinated by the Chesapeake City Lions Club on October 18th in recognition of White Cane Awareness Day. He stated that demonstrations of low vision aids included glasses that provide an audible description of items that a visually impaired person could not otherwise identify.

Vice President Meffley, referring to Resolution No. 72-2025, commended County Administration and the Department of Land Use and Development Services for their efforts to address and clean derelict properties.

Vice President Meffley stated he recently met with instructors from the School of Technology to discuss mechanical programs including plumbing and HVAC. He noted that the School of Technology offers excellent training for High School students who want to start a trade upon graduation.

Vice President Meffley stated that he enjoyed the recent Five Star event.

Councilwoman Hamilton thanked the audience for attending the meeting.

Councilwoman Hamilton stated she visited the Five Star event on October 18th, and while noting that the event was well-attended, she stated that it was not widely advertised.

Councilwoman Hamilton stated she attended Heritage Day at the Farm Museum on October 18th.

Councilwoman Culberson provided Emergency Services Intel for the week of October 13th, stating that Emergency Services responded to 262 calls; 15 of which were mental-health related; 40 domestic incidents; 24 of which were physical; 9 overdoses, 0 of which resulted in fatalities. Councilwoman Culberson noted that year-to-date statistics indicate 22 weeks out of 41 (54%) saw 0 overdose related fatalities.

Councilwoman Culberson stated she recently attended the Commission on Veterans Affairs meeting with Vice President Meffley. She stated the Commission is working on a resource guide for Veterans’ services, adding that the information will be posted to the County’s new website.

Councilwoman Culberson stated she attended a recent meeting of the Commission on Aging, during which the previously held Health Expo at Cecil College was discussed. She stated the Health Expo which was well attended and included several vendors.

Councilwoman Culberson requested that residents welcome trick or treaters regardless of age.

President Miller thanked the audience for attending the meeting.

President Miller stated he attended the Fair Hill Nature Center Fund Raiser on October 18th, and commended the center’s staff for their work at the facility.

President Miller stated he attended the Heritage Day event on October 18th.

President Miller stated the Five Star event was the largest he had seen, noting that the parking lots were full.

President Miller stated that he attended the Cecil County Farm Bureau meeting on October 20th, during which the bureau’s policy draft was considered. He stated the top 3 priorities from the draft will be forwarded for consideration and implementation by the Maryland Farm Bureau.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 2025-10

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Bill No. 2025-10 – Amendments – Cecil County Code – Chapter 39, Ethics – Additions Required by Maryland Legislation

A Bill to amend Cecil County Code – Chapter 39, Ethics, to add updates required under House Bill 279 (2017) Changes and House Bills 363 and 1058 (2021) Required Changes.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; Public Hearing scheduled on November 18, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on December 2, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that the County's Legal Department reviewed and subsequently updated the County Ethics Code for compliance with State Legislation, adding that the State reviewed and approved the updated Code.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 58-2025 AMENDED

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 58-2025 – Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Community Services – Community Partnerships Division AS AMENDED

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026, in order to provide a the corrected total of \$184,386.68 to the Community Services Grants Fund – Department of Community Services, Community Partnerships Division, Fund 109, Department 536, to record two grants awarded through the Maryland State Department of Education (\$126,062.68) and the Governor's Office for Children (\$58,324.00), respectively. Grant funds will be used to support the Cecil County Health Department's Healthy Families Cecil County Program and expand services related to the Governor's ENOUGH Act, respectively. Staff has requested Expedited Legislation.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; and consideration scheduled on October 21, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that he and Council Manager Henson discussed the clerical error which resulted in the reporting of an incorrect total of grant funding. He noted that the reported amounts of the individual grants were correct, reiterating that the amendment provided for a corrected total.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilwoman Branch, the Council moved to approve Expedited Legislation to consider Resolution No. 58-2025, as amended, during the Legislative Session of October 21, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y; Culberson – Y; Branch – Y; Meffley – Y; Miller – Y

Resolution No. 67-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 67-2025 – Appointment – Police Accountability Board – Jamila Mettee

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Jamila Mettee, to a term which expires December 31, 2028, to the Police Accountability Board.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025 and scheduled for consideration on November 4, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 67-2025 provides for the reappointment of Jamila Mettee to the Police Accountability Board.

Resolution No. 68-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 68-2025 – Appointment - Administrative Charging Committee - Michael Dawson and William Cain

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Michael Dawson and the appointment of William Cain to fill the vacancy left by John Stricklett, each to terms which expire December 31, 2028 to the Administrative Charging Committee.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on November 4, 2025

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 68-2025 provides for the appointment of new member Mr. Dawson and the appointment of Mr. Cain to fill a vacancy on the Committee.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if members of the Administrative Charging Committee are required to have a law enforcement background. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the negative.

Resolution No. 69-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 69-2025 – Adoption – Solid Waste Management Plan 2026-2035

A Resolution to adopt the Solid Waste Management Plan 2026-2035, which also includes the Recycling Plan, for the period 2026-2035.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; Public hearing scheduled on November 18, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on December 2, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated Resolution No. 69-2025 provides for the renewal of Cecil County's Solid Waste Management Plan for the 10-year period 2026-2035.

Resolution No. 70-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 70-2025 – Operation Green Light for Veterans

A Resolution to designate Cecil County as a Green Light for Veterans program participant and encourage businesses and residents to display a green light on November 1-22, 2025 to salute and honor Veterans in observance of Operation Green Light for Veterans.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on November 4, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 70-2025 provided for the County to participate in Operation Green Light for Veterans, adding that the requested Expedited Legislation would result in the County's participation to commence on November 1st vs November 4th.

On a motion made by Councilwoman Hamilton, seconded by Councilwoman Vice President Meffley, the Council moved to approve Expedited Legislation to consider Resolution No. 70-2025 during the Legislative Session of October 21, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y; Culberson – Y; Branch – Y; Meffley – Y; Miller – Y

Resolution No. 71-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 71-2025 – Supplemental Appropriation – General Fund – Department of Parks and Recreation – Design Phase of Indoor Recreation Center

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, in order to provide a total of \$387,500 from the Fund Balance to the General Fund for the Department of Parks and Recreation to record \$387,500 for the design phase of an Indoor Recreation Center.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on November 4, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 71-2025 is requested in order to provide funding for the design phase of a project to construct a 65,500 sq. ft. indoor recreation facility which would accommodate indoor sports and other community-related activities.

Councilwoman Hamilton expressed appreciation to Ms. Kilby and Ms. Coleman for their comments in support of the proposed facility.

Councilwoman Culberson queried if any organization could utilize the meeting space. Director of Parks and Recreation Clyde Van Dyke answered in the affirmative.

Vice President Meffley expressed support for the planned facility, stating it would keep High School graduation ceremonies in Cecil County.

Councilwoman Branch expressed appreciation to Director Van Dyke and the Board of Parks and Recreation for their efforts.

Resolution No. 72-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 72-2025 – Supplemental Appropriation – Special Projects – Department of Land Use and Development Services – Zoning Ordinance Enforcement

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, in order to provide a total of \$200,000 from the General Fund to Special Projects (00122100 517900) for the Division of Planning and Zoning (Dept 221) within the Department of Land Use and Development Services to record \$200,000 for Zoning Ordinance Enforcement.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on November 4, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated Resolution No. 72-2025 provides for the funding of a program to clean decrepit properties, after the owners of which have been cited for numerous zoning issues and subsequently taken to Court to address the issues.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 58-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 58-2025 – Supplemental Appropriation – Grant Funds – Community Services – Community Partnerships Division – As Amended

A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026, in order to provide a total of \$184,386.68 to the Community Services Grants Fund – Department of Community Services, Community Partnerships Division, Fund 109, Department 536, to record two grants awarded through the Maryland State Department of Education (\$126,062.68) and the Governor's Office for Children (\$58,324.00), respectively. Grant funds will be used to support the Cecil County Health Department's Healthy Families Cecil County Program and expand services related to the Governor's ENOUGH Act, respectively.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 21, 2025; and consideration via Expedited Legislation scheduled on October 21, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated Administration had no further comments.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 58-2025, as amended, which was seconded by Councilwoman Branch.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

Resolution No. 63-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 63-2025 – Appointment – Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board – John Tosh, Jr. and Anthony Vlamis

A Resolution to confirm the appointment of John Tosh, Jr. to replace William Ewing, and Anthony Vlamis to fill the vacancy left by Clay Stubbs, to terms which expire on August 1, 2029, to the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 7, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on October 21, 2025.

Director Schneckenburger stated Administration had no further comments.

Councilwoman Branch made a motion to approve Resolution No. 63-2025, which was seconded by Councilwoman Culberson.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

Resolution No. 64-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 64-2025 – Appointment – Adult Public Guardianship Review Board – Dianne Fox

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Dianne Fox to a term which expires November 5, 2028 to the Adult Public Guardianship Review Board

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 7, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on October 21, 2025.

Director Schneckenburger stated Administration had no further comments.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 64-2025, which was seconded by Vice President Meffley.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

Resolution No. 65-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 65-2025 – Appointment – Building Board of Appeals – Michael Downes, Patrick Conway and Theresa Jackson

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Theresa Jackson and the appointments of Michael Downes to fill the vacancy left by Douglas Day, and Patrick Conway to fill the vacancy left by David Strouss to terms which expire December 3, 2029 to the Building Board of Appeals.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 7, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on October 21, 2025.

Director Schneckenburger stated that Administration had no further comments.

Vice President Meffley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 65-2025, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

Resolution No. 66-2025

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 66-2025 – Appointment – Economic Development Commission – Kimberly Justus

A Resolution to confirm the reappointment of Kimberly Justus to the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire September 6, 2028.

Introduced by Council President at the request of the County Executive.

Introduced and ordered posted on October 7, 2025; and scheduled for consideration on October 21, 2025.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Administration had no further comments.

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 66-2025, which was seconded by Vice President Meffley.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

Old Business

Rezoning File: 2025-04 Applicant: Morris & Ritchie Associates, Inc. Property Location: 64 Ephrata Avenue, Elkton, Maryland 21921 Election District: 5, Tax Map: 026G, Parcels: 0256, 0276, and 0332. Property Owner: Maryland Sand Gravel & Stone Co. Presently Zoned: Residential Mixed Use (RMU) Proposed Zoning: Business General (BG) and Heavy-Industrial District (M-2).

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Administration had no further comments.

Councilwoman Branch made a motion to approve rezoning file 2025-04 based upon the applicant's demonstration of a mistake in zoning designation during the 2011 Comprehensive Rezoning, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

New Business

Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #141

Councilwoman Culberson made a motion to approve Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #141, which was seconded by Vice President Meffley.

Roll Call Vote: Hamilton – Y, Culberson – Y, Branch – Y, Meffley – Y, Miller – Y

The motion was approved 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Councilwoman Culberson, seconded by Councilwoman Branch and approved by all present, President Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Council President Miller announced that the next Council Legislative Session is scheduled on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Elk Room of the County Administration Building. The Legislative Session will be livestreamed on the County's webpage at www.ccgov.org/council. The recording and transcription will be uploaded to the County's website as soon as possible.

Approved:



Al Miller, Council President

Attest:



L. Michelle Henson, Council Manager

