

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY

WORK SESSION MINUTES

December 2, 2025

OPEN SESSION – Elk Room

4:30 P.M.

NOTE: The recording and transcription of this meeting are available on the County website at www.cecilcountymd.gov

PRESENT: Council Members: Rebecca Hamilton, Al Miller, and Dawn Branch; Council Manager L. Michelle Henson; Council Assistant Christine Palmer; members of the Administration and members of the public.

Call to Order

President Miller called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and announced that there were three Council Members present which constitute a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Councilwoman Branch, seconded by President Miller, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of November 18, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

Board of Health

President Miller recessed the Work Session at 4:30 p.m. to conduct the Board of Health meeting.

President Miller reconvened the Work Session upon adjournment of the Board of Health meeting at 5:06 p.m. and resumed the Work Session agenda.

Review of Legislative Agenda

a. Introduction of Resolutions

1) Resolution No. 81-2025 – Approval – Nuisance Flooding Plan 2025-2030

Director of Land Use and Development Services (LUDS) Stephen O'Connor stated that the Nuisance Flooding Plan (Plan) was developed according to State requirements regarding improved public safety and resiliency, adding that the Planning Commission has reviewed the Plan.

Director O'Connor recognized Deputy Director Bryan Lightner for his efforts and collaboration with several groups to complete the Plan.

Deputy Director Lightner stated the Plan includes updates regarding procedures and processes previously identified in the 2020 Plan.

Deputy Director Lightner stated that the Planning Commission approved the Plan with revisions that include provision of additional baseline information with respect to future land use planning; incorporating data from Watershed Master Plans as well as State and Federal flood maps to identify nuisance flood areas; and an annual presentation to Council regarding implementation strategies.

President Miller commended LUDS staff, stating the Plan is comprehensive.

Councilwoman Branch echoed President Miller's comments.

b. Consideration of Resolutions

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

Director of Administration Dan Schneckenburger stated the updates to the State-mandated Solid Waste Management Plan 2026-2035 include the process of disposal of medical waste from 2 facilities that operate within the municipal limits of Elkton.

2) Resolution No. 75-2025 – Supplemental Appropriation – General Fund – Department of Community Services – Animal Services Division – Purchase of Body Cameras and Patrol Vests

Director of Administration Dan Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 75-2025 provides for the purchase of safety vests and 5 body cameras for Animal Welfare Enforcement Officers, noting that 4 of the cameras will be utilized and the 5th will serve as a backup. He stated the cameras will provide transparency and protection for the Officers and members of the public with whom

they interact. Councilwoman Branch queried the life span of the equipment. Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated the equipment is expected to last about 5 years.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if the cameras' operating system and subsequent retention of videos required a software license agreement. Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated the software licenses and video retention agreements will be under the umbrella of the Sheriff's Department.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if the Sheriff's Department will invoice Animal Services for fees associated with the camera software licenses and video retention agreements. Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that the fees associated with 4 cameras are minimal and can be absorbed by the Sheriff's Department.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if Animal Welfare Enforcement Officers will be required to announce when their camera is activated. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the affirmative.

3) Resolution No. 76-2025 – Stipend – Police Accountability Board (PAB) and Administrative Charging Commission (ACC)

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated Resolution No. 76-2025 clarifies the process for payment of stipends to members of the PAB and ACC.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if the payment of stipends to members of the PAB and ACC was dependent upon a member's attendance record. Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated member attendance had not been an issue, adding that it would be addressed if needed.

4) Resolution No. 77-2025 Appointment – Ethics Commission – Dr. Cecil Shannon Whitley
Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated Dr. Whitley's appointment filled the vacancy left by Janet Pope. He noted that Dr. Whitley is registered as "Unaffiliated" which conforms with Ethics laws prohibiting more than (3) members of the same political party to serve on the commission.

President Miller queried if the Ethics Commission membership is complete. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the affirmative.

5) Resolution No. 78-2025 Appointment – Police Accountability Board – Michael W. Dawson
Director of Administration Schneckenburger requested Council's approval of Mr. Dawson's appointment to the Police Accountability Board.

Councilwoman Hamilton queried if Mr. Dawson was appointed to the Administrative Charging Commission on November 4th. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the affirmative.

6) Resolution No. 79-2025 Appointment – Planning Commission – Charles Hicks
Director of Administration Schneckenburger requested Council's approval to reappoint Charles Hicks to the Planning Commission.

Councilwoman Hamilton commended Mr. Hicks in his role as Chair of the Planning Commission.

7) Resolution No. 80-2025 Appointments – Department of Social Services Board – Patricia L. Brown and Natalie Gentry

Director of Administration Schneckenburger requested Council's approval of the reappointments of Patricia L. Brown and Natalie Gentry to the Department of Social Services Board.

c. Call for Final Reading of Bills

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

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated County Attorney Keith Baynes updated the County's Ethics law, which is now compliant with the State of Maryland legislation.

Director of Administration Schneckenburger noted that no objections were voiced during the Public Hearing on November 18th.

President Miller commended Attorney Baynes' work on Bill 2025-10.

Council Manager Report

Council Manager Henson stated the report was included in the Council's meeting packet.

Council Member Items

Council deferred Council Member Items to the Legislative Session.

Adjournment

President Miller requested a motion to adjourn the Work Session.

Councilwoman Branch made motion to adjourn the Work Session, which was seconded by Councilwoman Hamilton.

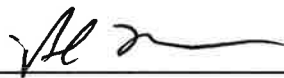
President Miller adjourned the work session at 5:24 pm.

The next County Council Work Session will be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 4:30 pm in the Elk Room of the County Administrative Building. The session will be livestreamed on the County Council's webpage at www.cecilcountymd.gov

Approved:



L. Michelle Henson
Council Manager



Al Miller, Council President