

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY

WORK SESSION MINUTES

June 16, 2026

OPEN SESSION – Elkton Municipal Building

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: Robert Meffley, Al Miller, Rebecca Hamilton, Donna Culberson and Dawn Branch; Council Manager L. Michelle Henson; Council Executive 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 five Council Members present which constitute a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Councilwoman Branch, seconded by Councilwoman Culberson, the Council moved to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of June 9, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations

Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #147

Cecil County Public Schools (CCPS) Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Denise Sopa presented CCPS Budget Amendment #147, which reflects activity for the month of March 2026.

CFO Sopa reviewed restricted revenues which included donations from local businesses, community groups, Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO), and grant funding.

CFO Sopa reviewed unrestricted revenues which included use of Fund Balance and an energy fund rebate.

Councilwoman Culberson queried the status of the Rising Sun Middle School chiller unit. CFO Sopa stated that there are ongoing issues with the unit.

President Miller noted that York Builders consistently supports CCPS, noting a \$30,000 donation to the School of Technology.

Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #148

CFO Sopa presented CCPS Budget Amendment #148, which reflects activity for the month of April 2026.

CFO Sopa reviewed restricted revenues which included donations from local businesses, community groups and grant funding. She noted that CCPS received State Safe Schools grant funds to purchase radios and a repeater system.

CFO Sopa reviewed unrestricted revenues which included donations from local schools, which include proceeds from book fairs, as well as revenues from lease and miscellaneous revenue collections. She noted that STEP students generate program revenue by selling embroidered shirts, etc.

Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #149

CFO Sopa presented CCPS Budget Amendment #149, which reflects activity for the month of May 2026.

CFO Sopa reviewed restricted revenues which included donations from the Foundation for CCPS, community groups and grant funding. She noted that CCPS received State Safe Schools grant funds to provide digital mapping of schools to assist emergency response.

CFO Sopa reviewed unrestricted revenues which included donations from school booster clubs.

Discussion ensued regarding State requirements regarding reporting of interdepartmental fund transfers.

Councilwoman Culberson queried negative balances reflected in restricted revenue categories.

CFO Sopa stated negative balances in restricted funds reflect the end of a grant cycle.

Vice President Meffley queried items included in the miscellaneous category. CFO Sopa stated that the miscellaneous category included several object codes for small items.

CFO Sopa reviewed 3-year comparisons, including wages, health care and utilities.

Councilwoman Branch queried if CCPS employees could participate in County health benefits. CFO Sopa stated that CCPS benefits are negotiated pursuant to employee group contracts. She stated that inclusion of CCPS staff would result in over 2,000 additional employees.

Review of Legislative Agenda

Introduction of Resolutions

Resolution No. 27-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 27-2026 Appointment – Department of Social Services Board – David Rudolph, Dianne Fox, and Georgia Galicki

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 27-2026 provided for the reappointments of David Rudolph, Dianne Fox and Georgia Galicki to the Department of Social Services Board.

Resolution No. 28-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 28-2026 Appointment – Commission on Women – Vivan Mena

Director of Administration Schneckenburger stated that Resolution No. 28-2026 provided for the replacement of Casie Goins, who resigned from the Commission on Women due to scheduling constraints.

Councilwoman Culberson queried if the vacancy left by Ms. Goins was advertised. Director of Administration Schneckenburger answered in the affirmative, stating that the members of the Commission on Women requested the inclusion of a member with children.

Resolution No. 29-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 29-2026 Appointment – Board of Parks and Recreation – Jessica Bush

Director of Administration Schneckenburger requested Council's support of the appointment of Jessica Bush to the Board of Parks and Recreation.

Resolution No. 30-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 30-2026 Appointment – Building Board of Appeals – Paul Keeley

Director of Administration Schneckenburger requested Council's consideration of Paul Keeley's appointment to the Building Board of Appeals.

Vice President Meffley expressed support for Paul Keeley's appointment to the Building Board of Appeals.

Consideration of Resolutions

Resolution No. 26-2026

Council Manager Henson stated for the record:

Resolution No. 26-2026 Appointment – Local Management Board – Laura Hannan

Director of Administration Schneckenburger requested Council's consideration Laura Hannan's appointment to the Local Management Board.

New Business

Cecil County Public Schools Budget Amendment #147

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Council Manager Report

Council Manager Henson provided updates regarding Council's requests to schedule Work Session discussions, including Affordable Housing, Coalition Against Bigger Trucks (CABT), Data Centers and License Plate Readers.

Council Member Items

Council deferred Council Member Items to the Legislative Session.

Adjournment

President Miller requested a motion to adjourn the Work Session.

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

President Miller adjourned the work session at 5:07 pm.

President Miller announced that the next Work Session will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 4:30 pm in the Elk Room of the County Administration 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