

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/MUNICIPALITIES MEETING**  
**MINUTES FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009**

Commissioner Jan Gardner, *President*, called to order a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County, Maryland, ("Board") and the municipalities of Frederick County for Thursday, August 20, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners David Gray, *Vice-President*, Kai Hagen, Charles Jenkins and John L. Thompson, Jr.

Elected municipal officials present were Carroll Jones, Mayor and Karin Tome, Councilwoman, City of Brunswick; Debby Burgoyne, Town of Burkittsville, Jeff Holtzinger, Mayor and Al Imhoff and Paul Smith, Aldermen, The City of Frederick; David Pyatt, Mayor, Town of Mount Airy; Jackie Ebersole, Burgess, Village of Rosemont; Martin Burns, Mayor and Robert Lookingbill and Glenn Muth, Commissioners, Town of Thurmont; Ralph Whitmore, Burgess and Sam Eyler, Commissioner, Town of Walkersville. Also present was Patti Morrow, Recording Secretary.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from Thursday, July 16, 2009, were approved by unanimous consent.

**BUSINESS**

**Proposed Amendments to the County's Water and Sewerage Plan – Commissioner John L. Thompson, Jr.**

Commissioner Thompson presented his proposal that stated any extension and expansion of community water and sewerage systems into land located within a municipal corporation or municipal growth must be consistent with both the Frederick County Comprehensive Plan and the applicable municipal comprehensive plan.

A discussion ensued with various elected officials questioning Commissioner Thompson on his proposal.

It was indicated Commissioner Thompson would plan to attend a Maryland Municipal League meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2009, for further discussion on this issue.

**Fire Tax and Volunteerism Issues – Burgess Ralph Whitmore, Town of Walkersville**

Burgess Whitmore introduced the following members of the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company (WVFC) who participated in the discussion:

- Jim Graham, Treasurer
- Austin Schroyer, President
- Sandy Maxey, President, Walkersville Volunteer Rescue Company

Mr. Graham indicated the WVFC questioned the inequity of the fire tax districts.

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Mike Gastley, Finance Division, responded to the comments regarding the equitability of the fire tax funding.

Ron Hart, County Manager, commented on the issue of over response of fire and rescue apparatus. Mr. Hart pointed out the dispatching of fire apparatus was based on decisions made by the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association not the career staff.

Chip Jewell, Emergency Management Division, provided Walkersville response information to the Board and elected officials.

Mayor Burns indicated the Town of Thurmont requested similar data provided to them.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion that all persons would be requested to show cause, not later than December 31, 2009, why the Board should not abolish suburban/urban fire tax districts and establish fire tax districts for each company effective July 1, 2010. Commissioner Jenkins seconded the motion.

Commissioner Gardner amended the motion to state: all persons would be requested to show cause, not later than December 31, 2009, why the Board should or should not abolish suburban/urban fire tax districts and establish fire tax districts for each company effective July 1, 2010. The vote on the amended motion was 5-0.

It was indicated a county comprehensive discussion would take place at some point to discuss fire tax districts.

**Public Comments (Three Minute Presentation)**

- George Rudy
- Andrew DiPasquale, Esquire, Miles and Stockbridge
- Mayor Martin Burns, Town of Thurmont

Burgess Whitmore requested recycling bins for several Walkersville residents.

Burgess Whitmore responded to comments made by Mr. Rudy.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Morrow  
Recording Secretary