

## Board of County Commissioners

Joseph A. Vigliotti, President  
Michael R. Guerin, Vice President  
Thomas S. Gordon III  
Kenneth A. Kiler  
Susan W. Krebs



## Carroll County Department of Planning and Land Management

Christopher Heyn, P.E.  
Director  
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Phone: 410-386-2949



February 19, 2026, Carroll County Monocacy River Board Meeting  
Location: Taneytown Senior Center, Taneytown, Maryland

**In Attendance:** Byron Madigan (CC Staff), Tiffany Fossett (CC Staff), George Grillon, Melissa Long, Craig Connell

**Absent:** Brad Stickles

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No Public comment was given during the open public comment period.

Brenda Dinne, Special Projects Coordinator for the Carroll County Department of Planning and Land Management, gave an overview to the Monocacy River Board on the County's update to the Water Resources Element (WRE). The WRE is required to be updated approximately every 10 years through guidance provided by the State, and includes long range planning for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, emerging contaminants, and climate change.

A request for a viewshed analysis review as required by the Scenic Rivers Act for a potential solar project was received from New Leaf Energy, Inc. New Leaf Energy supplied a viewshed analysis for the potential project located on Benson Road in Westminster, MD. The Board reviewed the proposed project location, and through a motion by Craig Connell and seconded by Melissa Long, determined that the project wouldn't have a negative impact on the scenic view of the River, but also encouraged New Leaf to follow all Carroll County codes and ordinances through the development of the solar project.

Byron discussed the upcoming Watershed Groups Summit at Pinecliff Park in Frederick, Maryland on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. To date, 13 organizations, including the Carroll County Monocacy Scenic River Board have registered to attend. Byron will put together a PowerPoint presentation to discuss and update at the March meeting of the River Board's community outreach and events that will then be shared to the group at the Watershed Groups Summit.

The Board of County Commissioners wants to ensure that there are consistent bylaws across all Boards and Commissions and have provided a template to follow to ensure consistency amongst all Boards and Commissions. The River Board will incorporate this new template and discuss existing by-laws at the next scheduled meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

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Melissa reached out to DNR inland fisheries about their spring trout stocking schedule to see if the River Board could assist with stocking within the Monocacy Watershed. Mark, the Central Fisheries Manager, is going to get back with Melissa and coordinate once they have their stocking schedule set.

Community-Based Restoration Monitoring in Wakefield Valley Park along Capps Branch with The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay has continued for 2026. In 2025, the River Board coordinated with the Alliance to collect the required water quality monitoring data associated with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) project within the park and are currently looking at potential dates in May and June of 2026 to assist with this effort again.

Last June the River Board did a float trip on one of Carroll County's water trails, the Little Pipe Creek Water Trail and have discussed the possibility of organizing another event in June 2026, potentially on Carroll County's other water trail, the Big Pipe Creek Water Trail.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50  
Submitted by Byron Madigan