

**Jamie Larson – District 1**

**5/20/2025**

Good afternoon. I want to begin by addressing Commissioner Coates' behavior during the May 6 Commissioners meeting. The way you spoke to community members who raised concerns was deeply disappointing. Instead of listening, you attacked. Instead of engaging respectfully, you dismissed and demeaned. This kind of conduct from an elected official is not just inappropriate — it's disgraceful.

Public comment exists so residents can speak truthfully about issues that matter. That space should never be met with hostility.

That said, I do want to thank you for showing your true, authentic self. This is who you are at your core and it aligns with everything documented in the materials available on The Lagasse Report (TLR) website. It's the same pattern outlined in both Sargent reports. It's what staff and your colleagues have experienced firsthand. And it's what taxpayers continue to fund, with over \$2 million in legal fees and rising.

Next, I want to address Commissioner Patterson. Once again, he was not present today. According to public record, he has attended only one of the last seven Commissioners meetings in full.

The minutes repeatedly state: "Commissioner Patterson was not present for the vote." This isn't new. He has also missed closed sessions and key discussions on important county matters.

This board cannot function effectively with a consistently empty seat. Residents deserve active, engaged representation — not repeated no-shows.

At a minimum, it's time to reconsider who holds the title of Commissioner Vice President. That role should be filled by someone who actually attends meetings and can lead with consistency and presence.

Charles County residents deserve accountability, transparency, and leadership that shows up, both physically and in service.

Thank you.