

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Tuesday, September 10, 2013**

Present: Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Commissioner Cynthia L. Jones
Commissioner Daniel L. Morris
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
Sharon Ferris (Recorder)

Prior to the opening of the business meeting, the Commissioners participated in a dress rehearsal of the Calvert Cliffs Evacuation Exercise Drill at the Emergency Communications Center, Department of Emergency Services and Technology, Governmental Center.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner President Russell called the business meeting to order at 1:00 pm in the Chesapeake Building meeting room, Governmental Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve the minutes of August 27, 2013, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

PROCLAMATIONS WERE PRESENTED FOR:

- 1. NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH**
- 2. PATRIOT DAY** *(September, 11, 2013)*

**DEPT. OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY: DONATION FROM
MECHANICSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Present: Bob Kelly, Director, ES&IT

Theo Cramer, Executive Director College and Career Readiness, SMCPs

Paul Colonna, President, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Dept.

Mark Trowbridge, Assistant Fire Chief, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire
Dept.

Joseph Guyther, Grant Coordinator, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Dept.

Representatives from the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department formally presented 25 self-contained breathing apparatus to the EMT Cadet Program at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career & Technology Center. The EMT Cadet Program consists of classroom instruction as well as formal training at selected local fire companies.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agendas for September 17 and 24, 2013.

2. Department of Emergency Services and Technology *(Bob Kelly, Director)*

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the MOU which establishes Shared System Use between the Department of Information Technology (DoIT), Maryland Statewide Communication Interoperability Program Management Office and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to accept the spending plan for funding requests under Project MD1438 from the Emergency Number System Board on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services & Technology for the amount of \$1,040,500. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Circuit Court *(Pete Cucinotta, Coordinator, Drug Court Programs)*

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to accept the grant award from the Maryland Highway Safety Office in the amount of \$46,082 and execute the attached budget amendment realigning the budget to be consistent with the grant award and returning County match funds back to the Commissioners Emergency Appropriations and execute the attached sub-recipient between the Board of County Commissioners and Walden-Sierra, Inc. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Department of Economic and Community Development *(Robin Finnacom, Acting Director)* **Housing Authority of St. Mary's County** *(Dennis Nicholson, CEO)*

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Letter for the Transfer of the St. Mary's County, Maryland Tax Exempt Housing Bond allocation to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Development Administration, irrevocably transferring \$3,608,350 of the County's On-Behalf-Of-Tax Credit Bond Allocation for FY2013 to the CDA for use in issuing housing bonds on behalf of St. Mary's County. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Department of Human Resources *(Sue Sabo, Director)*

(Lewie Aldridge, Jr., President, Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums)

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Memorandum of Agreement between the County and The Friends of St. Clements Island and Piney Point Museums on behalf of the Department of Human Resources /Risk Management Division for adding Property Insurance Coverage for the Friends Scheduled Items in the amount of \$112 which is consistent with the FY2014 approved budget. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the Request for Reclassification for the Grade 4, PIO Administrative Coordinator position to a Grade 5, PIO Senior Administrative Coordinator as recommended by the Director of Human Resources. Motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Jarboe voted nay.

6. Department of Recreation and Parks *(Brian Loewe, Director; David G)*

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the budget amendment to decrease the Derelict Boat and Debris Removal Grant (PL1402) by \$20,000 to align the project budget with the actual grant award. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Jones was out of room when vote was taken.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the budget amendment to increase the Park Land Acquisition Grant Project (RP1401) by \$97,662 and align the budget with the actual Program Open Space grant award. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Morris requested Department of Recreation and Parks staff provide a list of projects Project Open Space dollars may fund.

Commissioner Jarboe asked Department of Recreation and Parks staff to determine if the County could lease property from individual property owners and apply it towards open space funds.

7. County Attorney (George Sparling)

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Lease Agreement between the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and Leonard Hall Junior Naval Academy, Inc. and the related BA decreasing Rents & Concessions revenue by \$500. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Sublease Agreement between the St. Mary's Soil Conservation District and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Department of Aging and Human Services (*Lori-Jennings-Harris, Director; Norine Rowe, Project Manager; Peggy Maio, Fiscal Supervisor*)

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, (1) to approve and authorize Departmental Staff to accept the Grant Award documents electronically for budget year one of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program grant, Project US1410, from the Corporation for National and Community Service in the amount of \$40,760, consistent with the hard copy reviewed by the BOCC.

(2) to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the related budget amendment that includes: increasing Federal funds by \$1,500, realigning \$8,900 from the Department of Aging and Human Services accounts and using \$1,600 from the BOCC Emergency Reserve account to cover the increase in County funding needed for compensation cost changes that became effective FY2014. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Department of Public Works and Transportation (*George Erichsen, Director*)

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the budget amendment transferring funds in the amount of \$12,800 from the FIN14 Capital Reserve to the STS Bus Barn Project PF-0507 for construction costs not eligible for grant funding reimbursement. Motion carried 5-0.

10. County Administrator (*Dr. Bridgett, County Administrator*); **Department of Finance** (*Jeanette Cudmore*); **Department of Emergency Services and Technology** (*Bob Kelly, Director*)

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize staff to prepare the necessary loan documents for a seven year loan for the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad in the amount of \$183,631 from the Fire & Rescue Revolving Loan Fund to replace one ambulance and also purchase one Stryker stretcher, and to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell and Staff to execute the necessary documents, with the understanding that the County Attorney will have approved them for legal sufficiency prior to execution of the documents. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events of the past week and upcoming events.

Commissioner Morris noted a resident in County Lakes received a notice from MetCom stating because of the AMR Water Meter Project currently underway he needed to install a thermal expansion tank on his water heater. Staff will research.

RECESS

PUBLIC FORUM

Commissioner Russell opened the Public Forum at the Northern Senior Center in Charlotte Hall at 6:30 pm.

Public Comments. *(Comments as noted below are intended as highlights of testimony given and are not verbatim.)*

GySgt Warren Campbell, 23265 Jenifer Ct., Leonardtown, MD 20650

- Would like to see a support group in St. Mary's County for Veterans
- Have wounded warriors support for jobs
- Veterans need to speak with other Veterans to share experiences
- Would be nice to have data base for Veterans to contact each other

Ron Johns, 37995 Indian Creek Dr., Charlotte Hall, MD

- Want to keep Charlotte Hall rural – moved here for that reason
- We did not ask for a Town Center
- Town Center could add 4,200 additional homes and we don't have a police force, schools or fire department to support that
- We don't need any more strip malls, park and rides, or grocery stores
- We didn't want a water tower, we needed one repaired
- It's all about needs not wants
- Focus on our needs, not the wants of some developers

Carlie Ward, 37790 Indian Creek Dr., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- We do not want to make Charlotte Hall a miniature Waldorf
- Don't need multi-family homes in Charlotte Hall
- Spent \$8,000 on well and septic and don't feel I should have to tie into water and sewer

- MetCom used the safety concept to get approval for a new water tower - safety is not it - contractors want the tank there

Beth Fabey, 30220 Hunt Rd., Mechanicsville, MD 20659

- Have not seen a development plan
- Anytime you have a town center you should have a bypass – will there be a bypass
- Will local access roads connect two shopping centers like between Kmart and WalMart in California, MD
- How will information be provided to us -will we get letters or will it be in *The Enterprise Newspaper*

Commissioner Russell commented that individuals who signed in will be on a mailing list to receive information concerning the Charlotte Hall Master Plan.

Mark Vogel, 760 Crandell Rd., West River, MD 20778

- Owns property in town center (Wawa) – wants to add additional buildings like medical offices - can't get permit
- Need sewer to expand

John Parlett, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Developer in community since 1974
- Developers don't build projects the community doesn't want
- Representing myself, Southern States, Ben Burroughs, Charlotte Hall Center, Inc. and Millison Management, Inc.
- A lot of misinformation out there– no high density residential areas are proposed in Charlotte Hall by any of my associates
- Always good stewards of the community – we don't build what the community won't support
- People want new restaurants, not fast food, in Charlotte Hall (enough fast food)
- Presented letters to Commissioners from Southern States, Ben Burroughs, Charlotte Hall Center, Inc. and Millison Management, Inc.

Heather Latham, 37998 Indian Creek Dr., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Moved to St. Mary's County in 94
- Was told water and sewer was coming to Charlotte Hall so I researched and found out Charlotte Hall was a town center – didn't know that
- Don't want high density housing in area – no Waldorf
- Citizens want to be informed on what 's going on

Dale Burch, 30670 Big Horn Ct., Charlotte Hall, MD, 20622

- We don't want another Waldorf
- Read St. Mary's County's Comprehensive Plan and cannot understand how it differs from Waldorf

- Legislation to require water and sewer must be rescinded
- Every citizen here invested in wells and septic systems and we don't want to abandon wells and pay for the same water
- Heard Town Center Master Plan was to incorporate three town centers as 1 project
- Advisory Committee good idea
- Address water and sewer issue

Edward Evans, 27879 Chapel Ct., Mechanicsville, MD 20622

- Thanked Commissioners for new digital NextGen Radio System
- Worked in Sheriff's Office 16 years
- For safety reasons, encrypted channels are a good thing
- Rank and File Officers support the new radio system

Dale Antosh, 29754 Beach Ct., Mechanicsville, MD 20622

- Took advantage of the Health Department's grant program for septic system
- Thanked Commissioners for new communication system – now have the ability to make 9-1-1 calls and get help quicker
- We have two Casinos in our area – why are some allowed and others not.- had slot machines and Fred's Liquor and St. Mary's Landing and they were illegal
- People don't want to have public sewer and water
- Why hasn't the McKay's building gone up
- People don't want low income housing in this area
- Years ago we were against park and ride and here it is
- Everyone wants to keep Charlotte Hall area rural
- Do a good job for us on the Charlotte Hall Master Plan

Thomas Williams, 37990 Mohawk Dr., Mechanicsville, MD 20622

- LUGM recommended amendment to mitigate traffic in town center - mitigate means to make less severe
- LUGM then recommends an amendment to exempt certain site plans for non-residential projects
- Don't understand what they are doing

Jule Thorne, 30633 Big Horne Ct., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Charlotte Hall is not broken – don't need to fix
- No commercial development can be approved - we already have empty stores
- Bad traffic in morning and evening Monday through Friday and Saturday horrendous
- More housing will increase the population and take away rural setting
- Need to consider safety, schools, better roads and fire department
- Charlotte Hall is rural area – citizens against public sewer and water – don't want it, don't need it

Carolyn Guy, 39776 Persimmon Creek Rd., Mechanicsville, MD 20659

- Favor responsible development
- Agree Charlotte Hall traffic is bad in morning, evenings and extremely busy Saturdays – most traffic just passing through
- Asked Commissioners not to amend the zoning ordinance to relax traffic regulations

J. Paul Colonna, 38850 New Market Turner Rd., Mechanicsville, MD 20659

- Commercial property owner in Charlotte Hall
- I see traffic failure not from local traffic but from cars going to the base
- Don't want Charlotte Hall built up like Waldorf
- Need more infrastructure
- Need to work with state on the highway
- Charlotte Hall Master Plan will work if done sensibly

Michael Parks, 24675 Greenview Dr., Hollywood, MD 20636

- Co-owner of Tidewater Veterinary Hospital
- Need additional space - saved for a long time to expand building – now understand there is moratorium and I can't expand

Garner Morgan, Mechanicsville, MD, 20622

- Dentist in Mechanicsville
- Understand spirit and intent of everyone here at forum
- Need regulation relief like others to expand building

Jimmie Swain, 39434 Jarrell Dr., Mechanicsville, MD 20659

- Rural area is what attracted me to this area – been here 25/26 years
- My well and septic work fine – don't want to change it
- Government exists for what is good and necessary for the people – hope you realize what needs to be done
- Make a really good plan

Ann Gregory, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Have no issue with planning and zoning rules as long as everyone abides by them
- Development started in front of my house, has never been completed and now road floods
- Had issues with junk yard and nothing has been done to my knowledge

Aaron Giles, 41510 Singletree Dr., Leonardtown, MD 20650

- Against encryption of radio system
- Restore ability to listen
- Need to balance transparency with law enforcement's need for privacy
- Establish a policy where all routine calls are transparent

Pat Carson, 37720 Mohawk Rd., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- We have a government that makes plans but doesn't look at the entire plan (homes, roads, schools)
- We need a police station to handle traffic and crime
- Residents are caught in a town center – should not be a town center - someone was not on watch

Paul Thorne, 30683 Big Horn Ct., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- MetCom was approved for a water town under the guise of public safety – did anyone check to see if info provided by MetCom was true
- Developers will get infrastructure at homeowners expense

Thomas McKay, P. O. Box 185, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Charlotte Hall has been great to us – great place to invest –want to give back to community
- Have plans to build a mini shopping center and grocery store – property was rezoned - will have to phase in plan because only have partial approval
- Traffic situation at Golden Beach Road – State doesn't think situation bad enough to invest in it – can't change what the State wants
- Need text amendment for traffic mitigation – mitigation allows improved infrastructure
- Need new services in the area – we all need to work together
Get from tape

Bill Isenberg, 40695 Bishop Rd., Mechanicsville, MD 20622

- Against encryption of radio system
- Retired federal police officer and ham radio operator - not aware of any incident that has caused safety issue
- Sheriff said encrypted for privacy – every patrol vehicle has an mobile data terminal – the computer is used by dispatch to send out call assignments so there is no need to broadcast names or call nature over the air
- More positives than negatives in scanners - good for road closures, flooding, traffic accidents
- Channels should be open – citizens want to be informed on what's happening in their community
- Provided letter to Commissioners

Norma Webber, 37720 Apache Rd., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Moved from PG County to get away from congestion
- All commercial establishments should have to pull from deeper aquifer than residents – several in neighborhood had to replace their wells when businesses moved in
- Residents don't want more growth – do the developers live here
- People came here for rural area – more development will be devastating
- Don't want water and sewer

- Charlotte Hall is already over developed
- Developers had their way, it's now time for residents to come first
- Can't change what has occurred but can preserve what we have

John Jedrlnic, 29961 Oak Rd., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

- Seeing an influx of crime with parking lot on Golden Beach Rd.
- High density doesn't serve the County
- Water issue – people have to pay and they don't need
- If Commissioners come forth and says there will be no high density in the County and put their name on it we will feel more comfortable

Sheriff Tim Cameron, Leonardtown, MD 20650

- Working to schedule a meeting here at Senior Center to discuss crime data in the area
- The new radio system is a good thing – robust system that will extend into the future
- Sheriff's Office asked for encryption on all but 1 channel to protect private data of citizens, to make sure radios are not use to track crime in progress, and to protect officers
- Still have transparency – can request crime reports, log on to FirstSheriff.com, or log on to the County Website
- It is a change but it is a good thing

Pete Griffin, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

- Own property of former Seymour Auto Parts
- Want to bring in full service Verizon store to Charlotte Hall - want to help community – could hire 20-25 people
- Originally property was zoned to allow this – now having trouble getting a permit (7 months)
- Verizon may withdraw contract because of time lapse
- Don't understand why permit is not being approved – would like help

Phil Shire, Director, Land Use and Growth Management, Leonardtown MD 20650

- Can tell Charlotte Hall resident care about their community by the turn out tonight
- Don't have a plan for Charlotte Hall at this time – still working on Lexington Park Plan
- The Planning Commission will form a Citizen Advisory Group to assist with the planning initiatives
- We want to work with you to determine what you want

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Russell closed the Public Forum and adjourned the Board of County Commissioners meeting at 8:15 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)