# ST. MARY'S COUNTY

# BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

**Tuesday, July 12, 2005** 

**Present:** Commissioner President Thomas F. McKay

Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement

Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe

Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.

Commissioner Daniel H. Raley

George G. Forrest, County Administrator

Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant (Recorder)

Kate Mauck, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

Kate Mauck recorded the following minutes:

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, June 28, 2005. Motion carried, 5-0.

# APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Check Register. Motion carried, 5-0.

## **PROCLAMATION**

The Board of County Commissioners presented a proclamation in honor of National Recreation and Parks Month.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY AGRICULTURE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD: REQUEST STAFF TO PREPARE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING USE OF TOBACCO FUNDS TO SUPPLEMENT MALPF FY05 EASEMENT OFFERS

Present: John Savich, Director

Donna Sasscer, Agriculture Manager

Members, St. Mary's County Agriculture Land Preservation Advisory Board

The Department of Economic and Community Development and the St. Mary's County Agriculture Land Preservation Advisory Board appeared before the Commissioners to request the utilization of tobacco funds to supplement Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) FY 2005 easement offers. There would be no financial impact to the county, as \$463,250 of tobacco funds would be used.

Ms. Sasscer outlined the appraisals that have been reviewed and analyzed, and reported that one of the three appraisers repeatedly used incorrect information in making his appraisal; therefore, the appraisals came in too low to satisfy landowners. The process used was outlined. Supplemental easement offers in the amount of \$500 per acre would allow easement values to remain under fair market value, but in some cases would then match or come close to the landowners' asking prices.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to direct staff to prepare a Resolution authorizing use of tobacco funds to supplement Maryland Agriculture Land Preservation

# Foundation FY 2005 easement offers by \$500 per acre. Motion carried, 5-0.

Staff was directed to talk with someone at the state level regarding the need to reevaluate the assessor's appraisals.

# PUBLIC HEARING RE: PROPOSED FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE SHERIFF'S RETIREMENT PLAN

Present: Susan Sabo, Director, Human Resources

Dee Snyder, Benefits Coordinator, Human Resources

The Department of Human Resources presented a proposed Fourth Amendment to the Sheriff's Retirement Plan for public hearing. The hearing was properly advertised in *The Enterprise* newspaper on June 29 and July 6, 2005. Ms. Sabo reported that the Retirement Board has reviewed the document and recommended approval of the proposed amendment.

Commissioner President McKay opened the public hearing for public testimony. No one was present to speak regarding the matter; therefore, the public hearing was closed. The matter will remain open for ten days, during which time, written public comment will be accepted prior to final discussion and a decision on the matter.

# DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – REQUEST FOR DIRECTION – CHARLOTTE HALL MASTER PLAN

Present: Phil Rollins, Director

John Savich, Director, Department of Economic and Community Development

Mr. Rollins presented information and asked for direction on how to move forward on the Charlotte Hall Master Plan. Public input and discussion on the plan took place during the Recreation and Parks Board meeting of June 2, 2005 at the Northern Senior Center. Funding for developing a master plan was included in the FY2005 Capital

Budget, and no funding is included in the FY06-11 CIP for facility development. Mr. Rollins outlined details regarding public input received in a memorandum to the Commissioners dated June 8, 2005.

The Charlotte Hall property includes 40 acres of land, with a forest conservation easement on about 13 acres of the property, and the Senior Center utilizing 5-10 acres. Public sewer is not currently available at this location. Two prevailing themes of the speakers addressing the R&P Board were a need for senior housing and a need for additional recreational facilities in the Charlotte Hall area. The following direction was given by the Board of County Commissioners:

- · Look at the site for possible senior housing, working with the Department on Aging and the Maryland Department on Aging to come up with a proposed plan with a campus-like setting. Also look at state property that is adjacent to the this property to see if it's possible to combine and expand opportunities;
- · Keep this as the recreational end, with the residential end on additional county or state property; if that would not work, then staff should look at the property for residential;
- · Keep residential and recreational center within walking distance; include indoor recreational activities;
- · Include multipurpose practice fields for soccer and other non-intensive uses:
- · Complex with an indoor pool should be looked at that will allow seniors to use, yet also to provide community use during alternate hours;
- Potential for crossing over to the old transfer station property (across from Fifth District Park) look into using the ten acres of land in order to accommodate a recreational need and determine parking needs;
- · Look into property behind Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home, close to the library, and find out if it ties together with the Charlotte Hall Master Plan. Mr. Savich reported that he will look into the property issue to determine what is owned by

the state in that location. Also look into whether tapping into the sewerage system used by the Veteran's Home would be possible;

- · Check with George Erichsen regarding the relocation of the transfer station. Mr. Rollins stated that the Department of Land Use and Growth Management should be included in this overall process;
- · Look into providing a second access to the property by way of Wayland Road; and
- Regarding the 13-acre forest conservation easement site on the property- a viable alternative would be to transfer it to another site; however, it might be able to remain intact.

Mr. Rollins will work with the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Department of Land Use and Growth Management to broaden the view of the Charlotte Hall Master Plan, and will pull together other locations that might prove to be valuable for recreational activities.

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

1. Draft Agenda for July 19 and July 26, 2005

# 2. Health Department

Present: Dr. William Icenhower, Health Officer

Daryl Calvano, Environmental Health Director

Victor Krasnokutsky, Program Manager

a. Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Fiscal Year 2006 contractual agreement with the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding supplemental monitoring of

sewage sludge activities in St. Mary's County and related Budget Amendment. Motion carried, 5-0.

- b. Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign agreement with St. Mary's County Health Department for Fiscal Year 2006 contractual agreement regarding supplemental monitoring of sewage sludge activities in St. Mary's County. Motion carried, 5-0.
- c. Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Budget Amendment for \$554 for FY2005 Gypsy Moth bill. Motion carried, 5-0.

# 3. Maryland Department of Agriculture

Present: Mark Smith, Agronomist

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign FY06 Grant Agreement with the Maryland Department of Agriculture for the purpose of control and eradication of Noxious Weeds. Motion carried, 5-0.

# 4. Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association and County Attorney

Present: RADM Gus Eggert, President, Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association

Gary Hodge, Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association

John B. Norris, III, County Attorney

Representatives from the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association brought forward a Letter of Credit in the amount of \$550,000 to satisfy Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association, Inc., obligations under paragraph 15 of the Memorandum of Understanding dated July 18, 2000, and

amendments thereto, for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, that the matter of the Letter of Credit in the amount of \$550,000 to satisfy the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association obligations with the MOU be tabled for consideration for at least two weeks, until such time as the Association is able to come forward with the requested study about Operating Expenses. Motion carried, 5-0.

# 5. Circuit Court

Present: Bill Tench, Court Administrator

Pete Cucinotta, Juvenile Drug Court

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Budget Amendment in the amount of \$21,465 for Drug Court Special Project Grant Award. Motion carried, 5-0.

# 6. Sheriff's Department

Present: Sheriff David Zylak

Captain Kenneth Cusic

Erin Shoemaker, Fiscal Manager

a. Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the

Commissioner President to sign Grant Award and Acceptance Certificate for the FY2006 Collaborative Supervision and Focused Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$12,000. Motion carried, 5-0.

b/c. Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Budget Amendment for the decrease of \$3,500 of funds for the FY2005 Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Grant, and place the \$3,500 in the FY05 Supplemental Reserve Accounts and to also sign Budget Amendment for the \$500 increase in budget funds for the federal FY05 Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Grant. Motion carried, 5-0.

## 7. Three Oaks Center

Present: Dennis Nicholson, Executive Director, St. Mary's County Housing Authority

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Memorandum of Agreement with the Maryland Department of Human Resources to partner with DHR in the Homeless Women – Crisis Shelter Home Program. Motion carried, 5-0.

# 8. Walden Sierra, Inc.

Present: Dr. Kathleen O'Brien, Executive Director

Larry Harvey, Director, Marcey House

Walt Biscoe, Community Services Coordinator, Department of RP&CS

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign FY2006 Conditions of Award documents allowing receipt of FY2006 funding from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration. Motion carried, 5-0.

# 9. Department of Public Works and Transportation

Present: George Erichsen, Director

a. Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Amendment to the existing Lease/Operating Agreement for Airpark Sales & Services, Inc. (known as AirTec, Inc.) Motion carried, 5-0.

Also Present for item b: John B. Norris, III, County Attorney

b. Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Temporary Easement Agreement documents for the Holly Point Shore Erosion Control District. Motion carried 5-0.

Staff was directed not to move forward on the project until the 5<sup>th</sup>

been settled.

Also Present for item c: Jeannett Cudmore, Deputy Finance Director

- c. Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Budget Amendment for \$35 to close out ADA Upgrades Project PF0309, and increase Commissioners' Reserve Account, as all work has been completed. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 10. Department of Recreation, Parks, and Community Services

Present: Phil Rollins, Director

Cynthia Brown, Community Services Manager

Walt Biscoe, Community Services Coordinator

Lieutenant Brian Cedar, Commander, MSP, Leonardtown Barrack

a. Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign FY06 St. Mary's

County/Lexington Park/Great Mills/Maryland State Police/Community Policing C-SAFE Project Grant Award and Acceptance document in the amount of \$12,000. Motion carried, 5-0.

Also Present for item b: Daniel Schaidt, Supervisor, Department of Juvenile Services

b. Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign FY06 St. Mary's County/Lexington Park/Great Mills/Lead Coordinator C-SAFE Project Grant Award and Acceptance document in the amount of \$2,600. Motion carried, 5-0.

Also Present: Kelsey Bush, Youth Coordinator

Anne Johnston, Executive Director, Patuxent Habitat for Humanity

c. Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Memorandum of Agreement for one AmeriCorps\*VISTA volunteer to be assigned to Patuxent Habitat for Humanity. Motion carried, 5-0.

Commissioner Mattingly asked that Garvin come before the Commissioners to make a presentation outlining what he has accomplished for Habitat for Humanity.

- d. Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Corporation for National and Community Service AmeriCorps\*VISTA Project concept paper face sheet and related assurances and certifications regarding debarment, suspension and other responsibility matters, drug free workforce requirements and lobbying. Motion carried, 5-0.
- e. Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign FY07 Waterway Improvement Fund Application and Project Agreement forms. Motion carried, 5-0.
- 11. Department of Economic and Community Development

Present: Donna Sasscer, Agriculture Manager

John Savich, Director

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Release Agreement for Mr. George B. Reeves, Jr., for the St. Mary's County Agriculture Land Preservation Program. Motion carried, 5-0.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' TIME**

#### **Commissioner Mattingly**

Requested that staff provide an update on the status of the junkyard in Charlotte Hall, to include permitting, etc.

Thanked staff for the great job they did putting together last weekend's Freedom Fest.

Attended, along with other Commissioners, the Potomac Jazz Festival last weekend, which reportedly had the largest crowd to date. Complimented Kim Cullins and reported that staff did an outstanding job putting this event together.

Reminded citizens that the Leonardtown Carnival is still going on and will start back this coming Thursday.

Extended happy birthday wishes to his granddaughter, Lexi.

#### Commissioner Jarboe

Reported that he attended the Potomac Jazz Festival, and also attended a farewell event for Joe Gass, who will be departing the area in order to pastor a church in North Carolina. Mr. Gass has been very active in many areas in the County, and he and his family are wished all the best.

Attended a Grain Producers meeting on Monday evening in Charlotte Hall at the new Senior Center, with approximately 25 people in attendance. Donna Sasscer put together a program, and there were also representatives presenting information on bio-diesel fuel. Outlined information about the potential for saving County money in the future, and reported that the program was very good and informative.

#### Commissioner Raley

Attended the River Concert Series, and reported that a huge crowd was present for the very successful event. Congratulated the organizers of this event for their hard work, which has paid off.

Attended the Potomac Jazz Festival, which proved to be a treat, as well as a good tourism attraction. Reported that he noticed Jackie Russell and Commissioner Jarboe consuming large quantities of oysters at the event.

Attended for the first time the open house event at Summerseat Sanctuary, which was very nice.

Reported that bio-diesel fuel and ethanol may prove to be valuable to the County in the future in the way of saving money on heating costs and gasoline prices, and it may soon become necessary to look into this.

#### Commissioner Dement

Presented a proclamation to Ernie and Marge Erskin at the American Legion in the 7th District in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Presented a commendation to Lawrence Buckler in honor of his 60th birthday. The event was held at the farm of Mr. Bowles, who has been dealing with a lot of health problems.

Attended several family reunions and other events this past week.

#### Commissioner President McKay

Reported that Commissioner Raley has agreed to serve on the Agriculture Commission.

Reported that he had the pleasure of hosting his daughter's 16th birthday party this past weekend.

Asked Commissioners if they would be agreeable to removing a letter to Ms. Angela Greer from the Consent Folder, and asked that Denis Canavan provide additional background information on this subject and then have the matter placed on the County Administrator's Time. Commissioners concurred.

Announced the afternoon topics and invited the public to attend the evening public forum at the Valley Lee Fire Department and Rescue Squad at 6:30 p.m.

The Commissioners adjourned as the St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners, and reconvened as the Board of Health.

#### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SITTING AS THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Present: Dr. William Icenhower, Health Officer

Tracy Kubinec, Deputy Health Officer

Victor Krasnokutsky, Health Department

Nancy Luginbill, Health Department

Representatives from the Health Department provided an update on work completed by their agency, and included detailed reports in the meeting packet information regarding plan review processing from January 1, 2005 through June 14, 2005. A major topic of concern repeatedly expressed was the need for additional office space to house employees.

The following action or direction was given by the Board of County Commissioners:

· Schedule a public hearing on Health Department environmental fee changes;

· Ask Elaine Kramer to address the Board on the reason why finance did not prompt fee

changes through the regular budget public hearing process;

 $\cdot \textit{Mr. For rest to have Building Services/Facilities provide a status \textit{ report on the Health} \\$ 

Department roof, age of the facility, etc., and provide a report to the Commissioners;

· Staff to provide a space needs study; and

· Dr. Icenhower to look at the numbers used to determine what square footage there

should be in their facility in comparison to the number of employees.

The Commissioners adjourned as the Board of Health, and reconvened as the St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners.

METROPOLITAN COMMISSION: PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE ST. CLEMENT SHORE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLAN

Present: Steven King, Director

Mr. King outlined the need to investigate the feasibility of expanding the capacity of the St. Clements Shores Wastewater Treatment Plan in order to serve existing residences in the Compton area that have failed septic systems. Detailed information was presented regarding the need for a study that would prove whether or not there would be sufficient disposal capacity. Provided an explanation for a request for reimbursement by the

County, should a determination be made that there would be insufficient disposal capacity. Reported that the minimum potential impact would be \$25,239.

Reported information on the potential for one site versus two sites, and a proposal to work with Breton Bay Golf Course on this issue.

The Board of County Commissioners directed Mr. King to ask the Breton Bay Golf Course to share in the cost of the St. Clements Shores WWTP capacity expansion study. They indicated the preference to operate one facility instead of two. In addition, METCOM should bring the results of the study back to the Commissioners for review.

Donna Gebicke recorded the remaining minutes:

#### PUBLIC FORUM - VALLEY LEE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD

The Board of County Commissioners conducted an evening public forum at the Second District Fire Department and Rescue Squad, located at 45245 Drayden Road in Valley Lee.

#### Don O'Neal, 45895 Dogwood Lane, Great Mills

Thanks for understanding my concerns regarding healthcare for St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS) retirees. I am president of the retirees' organization. 57 ½ % of the healthcare insurance costs are paid for by SMCPS retirees over 65. Retirees pay three times what County government employees pay for the same health insurance. We need to have more benefits for our retirees. Charles and Calvert counties pay 75% of healthcare costs and the federal government pays 72%. Can't get anywhere with the Board of Education. Can't get numbers from them. I'm on their insurance committee and it's always "what can we cut?" Our retirees are entitled to decent benefits when they retire. We are the only county in Maryland that negotiates for retiree's insurance. Board of Ed lets the union negotiate for retirees. I ask that you work with the Board of Ed to come up with a workable solution -- even if you just improve a little each year to move toward an equitable agreement and it takes 5-6 years to get to 75%. The retirees have dedicated their lives to SMCPS. It is time to solve the problem and put some pressure on the Board of Ed.

Comments made by the following five citizens refer to the St. James subdivision in Lexington Park.

#### Mike Hackert, 19426 King James Parkway, Lexington Park

Purchased my property in St. James subdivision in August of last year - - it was a nice, wooded lot. I am passing out photographs that show the forest was intact at the time. After we took possession of the lot, we spent hours cleaning up baseball sized rocks, many trees and their root balls, stacked up wood and other construction debris from the forest conservation area. Other construction garbage was left throughout the

back and sides of the yard. We found charred wood that had been churned into the ground. At first I felt that although this just wasn't right, I didn't feel it was worth the time to fight it. Then, last spring we took a walk to the back of the lot and, as you can see from the photos, from the rear forward there are many pieces of trees and stumps left in the ground. The builder and Adam Knight, County's Permit Inspector, told us that there had been a lot of hurricane damage in the area and that they were not responsible for that. Hurricanes don't cut trees off smoothly, don't stack up wood, pick up stumps and leave them, don't use chain saws, nor do they create rust. In the rear of the lot, inside the forest conservation area, it appears someone has been going after hardwoods for harvesting. This is not forest conservation, it is forest decimation. I have three requests: (1) the County enforce the Forest Conservation Act in St. Mary's County, (2) my lot be cleaned up, and (3) that the County order HBI (builder) to implement a reforestation plan on my lot and deny any future permits for HBI until they complete these items or obtain a bond. I checked and no logging permits for this area have been obtained.

#### Chris Frayser, Lot 56, 19430 King James Parkway, Lexington Park

I have similar problems that Mr. Hackert just described. I had a contract with HBI to purchase lots. No trees were to be removed in the Forest Conservation Area (FCA). When I took possession of the property, they removed trees in the FCA - - in back, well within the FCA, where there was no reason to take down trees. My concern is how could the County let the builder remove these trees and afterwards allow them to leave the area in such disarray – it is one heck of a mess. I planted 300 trees in front at my own expense.

#### Brian McDermott, 19201 S. King James Parkway, Lexington Park

I also want to express my concern about how these lots were left by the builder. I was very surprised at the condition my lot was left in. It is hazardous to leave trees listing against each other. I have had 6-7 trees fall on my driveway. When the inspectors came out, they said a mistake had been made on the placement of my house — should have been on the left, ended up on the right. I was left to clean up a lot of extra debris as a result. Invite you to visit, especially section 4. There are trees rolled back into the line of disturbance on the other side.

#### Herb Laflamme, 19422 King James Parkway, Lexington Park

I purchased from HBI also and moved in during middle of October. Hazardous conditions have been created because of the grading problems and tree damage. Trees are knocked down and there are piles of trees with root balls attached and stacked up. There are piles of debris right behind the pristine forest. Other problems include swales, grades and standing water. Grades and swales were

created by the developer. The County did fix the sidewalk. Found a 500 gallon propane tank that has a 180' pine tree next to it with a huge root ball. If the tree fell it would punch a hole in the tank. The quality of landscaping is remiss. I have never seen anything like this anywhere else I have lived. I have asked for an inspector - - hasn't come out. Most of the people here are from Sections 3 and 4. I checked with people in

sections 1 and 2 and they say the builder left their lots in pristine condition. Why not keep up that standard for all development? I wrote to the builder, but response was lots of excuses. (*Photos were passed out.*)

#### Heather Allen, 19412 King James Parkway, Lexington Park

We are the second owners of our property. We've had estimates of \$5-10,000 to fix drainage problem. They did try to fix it, but with the rains this week there are ruts. We tried planting grass, but the seed just washes away. There is continual standing water. My son can't play outside - - he says it's a "jungle."

#### Staff Response:

Denis Canavan, Director, Land Use and Growth Management

Mr. Canavan informed the group that he has received their correspondence and investigation is underway. Deputy Code Official Adam Knight has personally visited with at least three residents and has meticulously gone lot to lot to make a visual inspection. Mr. Hackert and Mr. Frazier live on sizeable lots. The hatched area depicts the FCA - - this area should remain untouched. I see this in part as an enforcement issue and could be a logging operation or some other purposeful intent to

remove trees that has caused some of the downed trees. We need to view each lot individually, however. Mr. Knight will go lot to lot. We have to work in accordance with FCA laws. This investigation will continue and we will continue to work to determine what the violations are and who is responsible. We know there are grading issues caused by mechanical equipment bringing out trees. If you provide me with your individual names and addresses, I will contact you personally. If you have additional photos, that would be helpful. We are dealing with lots of factors, the investigation is on-going and we will pursue to the end. The question was asked as to whether or not the County had the authority to make the builder do remediation in the area. Mr. Canavan replied that the County has the authority if it is determined it was the responsibility of the builder and when the responsibility was shirked. We need to prove lack of responsibility. The Enforcement Section has already met with the builder.

#### Roy Fedders, 16690 St. Jerome's Neck Road, Dameron, MD

Regarding the dredging of St. Jerome's Creek: I expect you to work with state and federal governments to develop a resolution to the increasingly dangerous situation caused by the need for dredging. This is supposed to be a safe harbor. The second issue is the paving of St. Jerome's Neck Road. Last year we were told to wait until July 2005 for funds to be available for paving. We are here and the road is still not paved. The road has caved in at the fourth turn and is being eaten away in other parts. Public Works tried to fill in, but the material just sticks to tires. Mr. Raley in Public Works said it would be paved in July, now he says there are four more roads to do first - - and they are all subdivisions (including one close to the fairgrounds and Country Lakes). These are not as severe as ours. Why are they being done first? We are inhaling a powder that is put on the roads. The question is whether this meets the basic requirements for roads of this type. We get lots of traffic on this road. You did allocate the funds for paving this road, but now

you are using for other areas. We should be paved first. Also, with Patrick Walsh (Public Safety Director) leaving, I'm alarmed by what might happen in SMC if this position remains vacant. We are in hurricane season and it is only a matter of time before we get bad storms. The next disaster preparedness person needs to be knowledgeable about radiological issues and hurricane disaster preparedness. I would be interested in knowing what the evacuation plan is. When FEMA was here they told me our plan was not adequate.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on
Kate Mauck, Senior Administrative Coordinator
This page intentionally left blank.