

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Tuesday, February 16, 1982

Present: Commissioner George R. Aud, President
Commissioner Richard D. Arnold
Commissioner Ford L. Dean
Commissioner David F. Sayre
Judith A. Mullins, Recording Secretary

(Commissioner Vice-President Larry Millison was not present due to illness.)

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

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Aud moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean, to approve payment of the bills as submitted by the Director of Finance. Motion unanimously carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 82-37
WALDEN COUNSELING CENTER

The County Administrator presented the referenced Budget Amendment for approval as recommended by the Director of Budget and Data Services as follows:

Increase

Account No. 1521-60120 (Walden Counseling) by \$2,288 for the purpose of providing additional funds for the purchase of furniture.

Decrease

Account No. 1252-90221 (General Misc. Projects) by \$2,288.

Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Aud to sign said Budget Amendment. Motion unanimously carried.

MENTAL HEALTH/ALCOHOLISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

In response to the nine recommendations (which are listed below) presented by the Mental Health/Alcoholism Advisory Council, the Commissioners agreed to take the following actions:

1. Urge provision of adequate emergency room facilities, short-term psychiatric beds, detox beds in the new St. Mary's Hospital.

(The Commissioners agreed to write a letter to the Hospital Board indicating the Committee's recommendation.)

2. Lend support when needed to Freedom Landing (perhaps a letter of support from the Commissioners to use when they are working in the community).

(The Commissioners agreed to write a letter of recommendation.)

3. Support Dr. Marek and Dr. Miller in efforts to coordinate services among mental health providers and users of services; ask that they examine out total compendium of mental health care services for adults, adolescents and children. Charge them with producing recommendations for a comprehensive, long-range plan.

MENTAL HEALTH/ALCOHOLISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS
(Cont'd.)

(The Commissioners gave their concurrence.)

4. Especially lend support to working out a system for in-county preadmission screening before hospitalization in a state institution.

(This item will be put on hold until more information is received.)

5. Lend funding support for a 24-hour, in-county emergency hotline service at Walden.

(This has already been done during last year's budget process.)

6. Lend support for licensure of Sierra House.

(The Commissioners have previously indicated their support of Sierra House.)

7. Make every effort to improve transportation facilities.

(The Commissioners have previously applied for and received transportation grant funds and have appointed a Transportation Committee to look into the transportation needs of the community.)

8. Support the need for an alcoholism Half-Way House.

(The Commissioners requested more information on this item.)

9. Support state alcohol tax - one-third of these monies will go to alcoholism programs.

(Will be put on hold until more information is received.)

The Commissioners requested the County Administrator to prepare correspondence to the Mental Health/Alcoholism Advisory Council advising them of the above actions and praising their efforts.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE
REVIEW OF STATUS OF PROJECTS

Present: John B. Norris, Jr., County Engineer

Mr. Norris reviewed with the County Commissioners the status of projects and highlighted the following projects:

HIGHWAYS

Lexington Park Storm Drainage

Mr. Norris advised the Commissioners that the design of the project was 90% complete and funding is now needed for the project to proceed. Commissioner Aud was authorized to sign correspondence to State Highway Administration indicating their percentage of funding participation.

McIntosh Road and Bridge

Mr. Norris advised that although the bridge project was federally funded the road is not. The quantity of earth required as borrow for the bridge project could be available for the road project and therefore it must be determined if it is more economical to do the projects together at this time.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE
REVIEW OF STATUS OF PROJECTS
(Cont'd.)

Tubman-Douglas Roads and Drainage

Mr. Norris advised that 1/5 of the sewer work has been installed and design of the roads will be presented to the Board next week.

Railroad Right-of-Way Corridor
Hollywood-St. Andrews Church Road

Mr. Norris advised that Southern Maryland Electric Co. has to acquire the referenced replacement corridor.

Roadside Striping

Mr. Norris stated a decision is needed whether to participate again in this project and if so, a source of funding will have to be identified. The Commissioners gave their concurrence for participation in this program.

Mattapany Road

Mr. Norris advised that design of the project has commenced and the plans will be presented to the St. Mary's City Review Board.

Slurry Seal
Asphalt Overlay
Surface Treatment

Mr. Norris indicated that these projects will be submitted at the Commissioners' meeting next week.

ENGINEERING

Airport Clearing
Safety Zone Obstructions

Mr. Norris advised that a source of funding for the seeding at the Airport will have to be determined.

Jail Entranceway
Jail Recreation Area

Mr. Norris advised that proposals for the referenced projects were received last week and recommended that the County Administrator and Sheriff serve on a committee to review proposals. The Commissioners gave their concurrence.

Commission On Aging - Addition

Mr. Norris indicated that architectural proposals have been solicited for the referenced project.

Orphan's Court

Mr. Norris advised that he has prepared a proposal and the Orphan's Court has submitted a counter-proposal for use of the room to be used by Orphan's Court exclusively rather than as a Multi-purpose Room. Mr. Norris is to discuss this matter with the Orphan's Court Judges.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE
REVIEW OF STATUS OF PROJECTS
(Cont'd.)

MARINE

St. George's Creek Dredging

Mr. Norris advised that the Spoil Easement Agreements have been signed and he is now in the process of requesting revised permits.

Derelict Boat Removal

This project is 100% state-funded, except for staff time. Mr. Norris stated that an advertisement needs to be placed in the paper to find out location, size and condition of derelict boats in order to determine whether there is a need to participate in the Program.

SOLID WASTE

St. Andrews Landfill Expansion

Mr. Norris advised the Board that the St. Andrews Landfill plans had been approved by the State Health Department and the County is going to need to place solid waste in that section this Spring.

GENERAL

Storm Drainage Policy
Road Ordinance Update

Mr. Norris indicated that there was a need to provide storm drainage and storm water management policy for the County. A preliminary meeting with the surveyors will be held this month. Mr. Norris stated that in addition there is need for a Road Ordinance Update.

COUNTY'S EMPLOYMENT PROCESS

Present: Carmen Johnson, Applicant for Economic Development
Coordinator position
Other interested citizens

Ms. Johnson appeared before the Commissioners to express her concerns regarding the County's employment process, particularly with the process used in selecting the Economic Development Coordinator. Ms. Johnson read a letter which she had previously forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners regarding this position and the selection process. She stated that in her opinion the County's system was not just and fair not only for blacks but for women. She further stated that there were no standards or criteria used in the screening and interview process. Ms. Johnson inquired of each of the Commissioners their opinions of the County's present employment process.

Each Commissioner responded to the question and it was the consensus of the Board that the system was fair and objective. However, if it is determined that there is a need for refinement of the process, they would be in favor of this.

Mr. Cox stated that out of the Affirmative Action Evaluation Committee, of which he is a member, came a recommendation to look at job descriptions, requirements and responsibilities and to try to factor those and assign point values.

Ms. Johnson thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to speak before them.

CITATIONS FOR CIVIL ZONING VIOLATIONS

Present: Frank Gerred, Director, Office of Planning and Zoning
Clarke Raley, State's Attorney

Mr. Gerred advised the Commissioners that the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation allowing the County to prosecute zoning violations as a civil violation and therefore presented a draft entitled "Citation for Civil Zoning Violation" for the Commissioners' review and comments.

Mr. Raley pointed out several areas that need clarification on the document as well as on the Civil Zoning Violation ticket. The Commissioners agreed to review the documents and further requested that Frank Gerred, Clarke Raley meet with the County Attorney to review and make refinements to the documents and return to the Commissioners with a proposed draft.

MIDWAY TRAILER COURT
WATER PROBLEMS

Present: Frank Gerred, Director, Office of Planning And Zoning
Clarke Raley, State's Attorney

Mr. Gerred advised the Commissioners of a serious situation existing at the Midway Trailer Park on Great Mills Road in that the operator of that park has not paid his water bill, the water has been cut off and eleven families have been without water since February 1, 1982. However, because of other serious conditions existing at the park involving the fuel system, the water system and the sewage system, it was concluded by the Metropolitan Commission that the water cannot be turned on. In addition, a plumber made an inspection of the trailers and noted many deficiencies in the plumbing system. Mr. Gerred stated that there are criminal violations in this situation and the matter could be turned over to the County Attorney to seek to close down the mobile home park. Measures are being taken to try to relocate the families.

Mr. Raley stated that the County Attorney could proceed against the lessee for an injunction to cause the lessee to make the necessary repairs. If this fails, Mr. Raley recommended that the Commissioners consider not reissuing the license for that trailer park in that the license has expired.

Later in the meeting, as directed by the Commissioners, Mr. Mitchell, Public Housing Coordinator, appeared before the Commissioners to discuss assisting the families in the trailer park to relocate. Mr. Mitchell stated that he has been in touch with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in an attempt to obtain rent subsidy. He stated that there is a certain amount of funds in reserve in the HUD office and he is hoping to get that amount increased. If this should occur, then the Housing Authority will be able to work with each individual family in assisting them to relocate. The Commissioners requested Mr. Mitchell to keep them apprised of the situation.

In closing, the Commissioners requested Mr. Gerred to request that the County Attorney obtain a Court Order to not allow the trailer park to be reoccupied.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

The Commissioners agreed to meet in Executive Session in order to discuss a matter of Personnel (Consideration of appointments to Boards, Committees and Commissions). The Session was held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.

AG-EXPO - INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER PROPOSAL

Present: Dr. Peter Nelson, President, Agricultural Research
& Development Institute
Dr. William Adams, Vice-President
Maryland Certified Counties Team members
Chamber of Commerce members
Economic Development Commission members
Farm Bureau members
Other interested citizens

Dr. Nelson stated that the purpose of this meeting was to present a concept proposal for a 25 Million Dollar International Trade Center called AG-EXPO which would involve research, education and demonstration facilities for agricultural exports.

The purpose of the Trade Center would be to increase U.S. Agricultural exports and to assist Third World Countries in becoming more self-sufficient by providing technology in various agricultural fields.

Dr. Nelson pointed out that St. Mary's County appears to be the most desirable of several sites for the location of the Trade Center because of its agricultural nature, availability of labor force and its close proximity to Washington, D.C. The selection of the site will depend on the availability of approximately 2,000 acres and the marketing of a 10 Million Dollar Bond Issue. Benefits to the County would include:

1. Many of the 7,000 jobs that will be created in the first five years would go to local residents.
2. An increase in tax revenues.
3. a general increase in the economy of the County.

Mr. Nelson went on to explain what type of agricultural exhibitions and demonstrations will be located at the center and displayed the proposed plans of the layout of the buildings and various activities.

During a question and answer period, there were several issues raised by members of the audience including: environmental impact statement, number of jobs going to local residents, water sources, use of aquifers, fish farming, industrial revenue bonds, etc.

In closing, the Commissioners thanked Dr. Nelson and Dr. Adams for their presentation and advised that they would like to set up a meeting with the Governor, Secretary of Economic and Community Development, Secretary of State Planning, Secretary of Natural Resources, our local Legislative Delegation and representatives of financial institutions in order to obtain their views and comments on the proposal. After this meeting, the Commissioners advised that they would get back with Dr. Nelson with their decision regarding Industrial Revenue Bonds.

CHESAPEAKE COUNTRY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

With reference to correspondence dated February 2, 1982 from Chesapeake Country Economic Development Corporation which was discussed at last week's meeting, the Commissioners agreed to request William Curtis, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission, to be a representative as well as a member of the Chamber of Commerce on a temporary basis until the Economic Development Coordinator is hired.

CORRESPONDENCE TO LT. GOVERNOR BOGLEY
HOUSING SITUATION IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY

The County Administrator presented correspondence addressed to Lt. Governor Bogley inviting him to attend a day-long work session concerning the housing problems in St. Mary's County which will include a tour of the Naval Air Station and housing facilities surrounding the base.

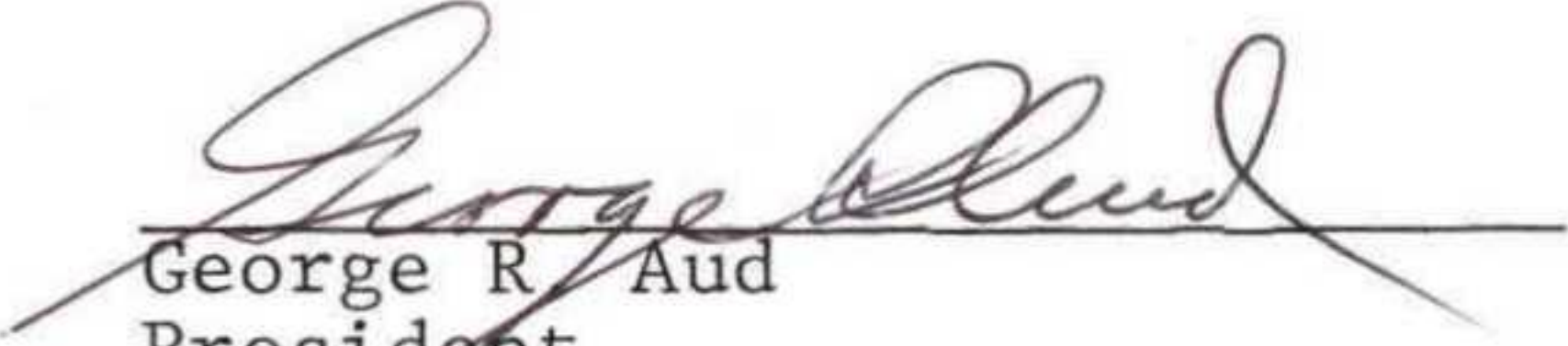
PART-TIME DATA PROCESS OPERATIONS TECHNICIAN I
OFFICE OF BUDGET AND DATA SERVICES

By memorandum dated February 16, 1982, the Personnel Officer advised that it was the recommendation of the Selection Committee to appoint Janette Norris to the Part-time Data Process Operations Technician I position, Grade 8, on an as-needed basis.

Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to accept this recommendation. All Commissioners voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Approved,


George R. Aud
President