

SPECIAL
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Saturday, May 17, 1986

Present: Commissioner George R. Aud, President
Commissioner Larry Milison, Vice President
Commissioner Ford L. Dean
Commissioner David F. Sayre
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Joseph P. O'Dell, Director, Budget & Data Services
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

(Commissioner Richard D. Arnold was not present due to illness).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

FY '87 BUDGET DISCUSSION

(Commissioner Millison stated for the record that he will abstain on each budgetary line item decision unless his voted is needed to break a tie).

Fire and Rescue Squad Revolving Fund

Mr. O'Dell recommended that this fund be treated as an Enterprise Fund activity. It will be brought back before the Board by way of a Resolution in the amount of \$749,500 for issuance of a bond.

The Commissioners concurred.

Line by Line Item Review (Operating and Capital Budgets)

At this time the Board reviewed each line item for restoration of funds and other decisions from the Recommended Budget as proposed by various departments and agencies.

Mr. O'Dell will prepare a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners for presentation on Tuesday, May 20, 1986 for source of funding these items. Mr. O'Dell will also present figures for the transfers from the General Fund and General Obligation Bonds.

Tobacco Barn Tax Credit

Commissioner Dean stated that he has given considerable thought to the request by the Farm Bureau and Farmers' Association for a tobacco barn tax, which would result in a \$75,000 decrease in revenues. He stated that St. Mary's County spends significant funds for the promotion of economic development in St. Mary's County.

Therefore, Commissioner Dean recommended the following:

1. Adopt a tobacco barn exemption provision for FY '87 only.
2. Elicit the assistance of the State Department of Assessment and Taxation and our local Legislative Delegation to work in concert with the Board of County Commissioners to evaluate the current formula for determining the amount of the agricultural assessment--with the goal of reducing in St. Mary's County the level of taxation in all types of agricultural land in production.

This effort would be undertaken with the understanding that upon such an accomplishment, the exemption for tobacco barns would be deleted.

Commissioners Aud, Sayre and Dean agreed with this proposal with Commissioner Millison abstaining.

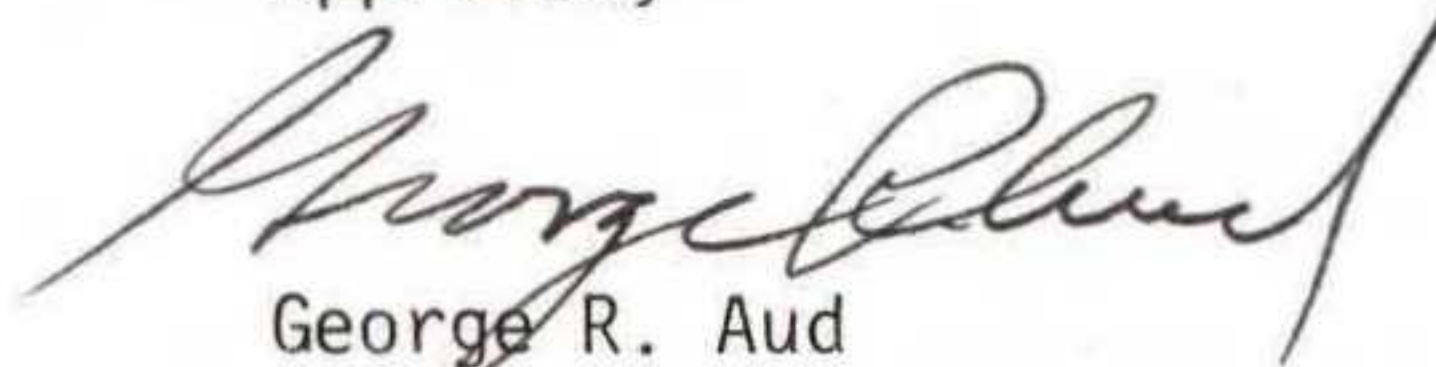
Tourism Proclamation

The Commissioners considered the Chamber of Commerce's tourism activities proposal presented to them on April 22, 1986 and agreed to support the concept. However, because of the fiscal situation for FY '87, the Board agreed to waive any decision with regard to funding until a subsequent date.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Approved,



George R. Aud
President