

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 14, 1995**

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Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to approve the minutes of Tuesday, February 7, 1995 and Thursday, February 9, 1995. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Check Register as presented. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

1) **Office on Aging
Transportation Grants - Fiscal Year 1996**

Present: Gene Carter, Director

On February 7 Mr. Carter presented the Annual Transportation Plan Grant Applications for Fiscal Year 1996, and the Board of County Commissioners deferred for one week a decision on the grant application. Mr. Carter, during his Fiscal Year 1996 budget review on February 9, reviewed the applications with the Commissioners responding to their questions. Having discussed the grant applications and the various transportation programs, the County Administrator requested the Commissioners' approval.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve the Annual Transportation Plans for Fiscal Year 1996, the Public Transportation Programs (Section 9 and 18) and Statewide Special Transportation Assistance Program (SSTAP) as presented. Motion carried.

2) **Response Letters**

The County Administrator presented the following response letters for the Commissioners' review and consideration:

- To Dennis Ramsey responding to his concerns relative to the Open Meetings Act, use of personnel, and attendance at conferences indicating the Commissioners will keep his comments in mind.
- To Ms. Joan Moore responding to her concerns relative to the four-way stop at the intersection of Maryland Routes 234 and 242 and advising that the Commissioners sent a letter to SHA requesting the removal of the signs and the caution light restored. The SHA was also requested to implement a full signal at the intersection as soon as possible.

- To Joseph Daley, Vice-President, Economic Development Commission responding to his letter relative to the work of the EDC regarding an incubator project.
- To Cheryl Ahearn, Patuxent Inn responding to her concerns relative to the Accommodations Tax.
- To Keith McGuire responding to his concerns relative to the Hanover Run (Myrtle Point) property.

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to sign and forward the letters as presented. Motion carried.

**3) Criminal Justice Coalition
Invitation to Next Meeting**

The County Administrator presented correspondence addressed to the participants of the Criminal Justice Coalition inviting them to the next meeting scheduled for February 21 at 4:00 p.m. in the Carter State Office Building, Second Floor Meeting Room.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and sign the Criminal Justice letter. Motion carried.

**4) Wicomico Golf Course
Alcohol License Renewal**

The County Administrator advised that the Alcohol License for the Wicomico Golf Course is in the name of the Board of County Commissioners and requested the Commissioners' approval to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Annual License Renewal.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Annual Alcohol License Renewal Application for Wicomico Golf Course. Motion carried.

**5) Sewage Sludge Permit Application
Sally McGrath Property**

The County Administrator presented the standard letter addressed to the Maryland Department of Environment waiving the County's right for a public hearing/meeting on the sewage sludge utilization permit application for the Sally McGrath property in Calvert County (within one mile of St. Mary's County), which was forwarded by MDE by correspondence dated February 6. The letter reiterated the County's ongoing concerns over environmental safety and land records notification.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to sign and forward the letter as presented. Motion carried.

6) Investment Policies

The County Administrator presented a memorandum dated February 13 from the Director of Finance advising the Commissioners of the County's investment policy. Included with the February 13 memorandum were copies of Resolution 83-08 which gives authorization to the Director of Finance as the responsible party for deposit and withdrawal of funds in the Maryland Local Government Investment Pool and Chapter 163-1 of the St. Mary's County Code regarding investments.

7) **Letters of Appreciation
Annual Reports**

The County Administrator presented letters of appreciation addressed to the chairs of the Boards and Committees that have presented the 1994 Annual Reports to the Board of County Commissioners.

The Commissioners agreed to sign and forward the letters as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chessser, to meet in Executive Session to discuss matters of Personnel (Employment Contract), as provided in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1. Motion carried.

Personnel - Employment Contract

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
Commissioner Paul W. Chessser
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1
Time Held: 9:25 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed an employment contract and agreed to defer a decision until a later meeting.

SYSTEMS REFORM INITIATIVE

Present: Ella May Russell, Department of Social Services
William J. Marek, Health Officer
Lorraine Fulton, St. Mary's Public Schools
William Combs, Department of Juvenile Services

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to present a briefing on the status of the Systems Reform Initiative (SRI), a program for the restructuring of the human services delivery system on an interagency basis. Mrs. Russell advised that the Reform Initiative's goals include changing the way support services are provided to children and families; changing the way decisions are made; and changing the way services are funded. She stated that funding comes from four state agencies--Department of Human Resources, Department of Education, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Department of Juvenile Services. She pointed out the implementation of the SRI requires the establishment of a local planning entity.

Mrs. Fulton stated that the four local agencies--Department of Juvenile Services, Department of Social Services, St. Mary's Public Schools, and the St. Mary's Health Department have been meeting for the purpose of developing and refining the local planning entity framework for serving at risk children and families. She further indicated that the local planning entity will be responsible for planning, overseeing, and evaluating the initiatives. Mrs. Fulton advised that the four local agencies have been meeting, sending a Letter of Intent to the State to participate in the planning process with the Board of County Commissioners and also applying for a \$50,000 planning grant, which has been approved by the Office of Children, Youth and Families.

In summary Mrs. Russell requested the Commissioners to appoint a Local Planning Entity to develop the planning process and recommended that the Committee consist of representatives of the four referenced agencies and three other individuals including representatives of the business community and two parents who have experience with this issue.

In conclusion the Commissioners indicated they will give consideration to the appointments to the Local Planning Entity as recommended at a later meeting.

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Present: Ray Hanson, Chair
John Ragland
James Davis

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to present the 1994 Annual Report for the Cable Advisory Committee. Mr. Hanson highlighted the activities of 1994 including the meetings, submission of franchise fee, complaints and their resolutions, and the efforts to complete the Public Access Manual.

A copy of the report is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

PUBLIC HEARING ROAD NAME CORRECTIONS ENHANCED 911 UNIFORM ADDRESSING SYSTEM

Present: Paul Wible, Chair, Task Force
Connie Johnson, Addressing Technician
Betty Johnson, Assistant "
Mary Duke, Task Force Member
Mary Pat Pope, Administrative Officer

As required per Article VI, Section 64.5.3 of the St. Mary's County Zoning Ordinance for the Board of County Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on administrative changes to the referenced roads as they appear on the *Official Road Name List*. The proposed changes include corrections for spelling errors and the deletion of those roads that: have been renamed, are duplicates of another listed road, are listed incorrectly, or no documentation can be found of their existence.

1. **Bay Avenue in Hays Beach** - proposed for deletion because of no documentation of its existence.
2. **Belvedere Road in Medley's Neck** - propose correcting spelling to "Belvidere Road".
3. **Black Duck Way in Hunting Quarter** - propose correcting suffix to "Court" as recorded.
4. **Brentmar Court, Brentmar Drive, and Brentmar Place, in Avenmar Subdivision** - propose correcting spelling to "Bretmar" as recorded.
5. **Burnt Mill Road in Burnt Mill** - proposed for deletion because is the same as "Burnt Mill Drive".
6. **Cusic Court in Hills Corner Estates** - proposed for deletion because recorded as "East" and "West" Cusic Court.
7. **Deer Run Circle in Chestnut Ridge** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.

8. **Deer Run Court in Chestnut Ridge** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
9. **East Therese Court in Haydens Run** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
10. **Gerard's Cove Road (County Road #30112) off of Abell Road** - propose correcting spelling to "Gerrard's".
11. **Gilkes in Flower of the Forest** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
12. **Jefferson Island Road** - proposed for deletion because is the same as "River Springs Road".
13. **Leonard Drive in Morganza** - proposed for deletion because is the same as "Leon Drive".
14. **Lexington Village in Patuxent Park West** - proposed for deletion because is the development name not the road name.
15. **Long Lane in Hollywood** - proposed for deletion because is the same as Long Lane in Hillville.
16. **Mattingly Road (County Road #30122) off Hatchet Thicket Road** - propose correcting to "Olen Mattingly Road".
17. **Mt. Chance Lane (County Road #31070) in Mt. Chance subdivision** - propose correcting suffix to "Court" as officially listed on the county road inventory.
18. **North Bend Road in Compton** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
19. **Old Orchard Lane** - proposed for deletion because is the same as "Jack Gibson Road"
20. **Richneck Road** - proposed for deletion because is the same as "Jones Road"
21. **Sandy's Lane in Deans Subdivision** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
22. **Shannon Boulevard in Hermanville** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
23. **Shannon Farm Road in Hermanville** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
24. **Stoney Brook Road in Londontowne** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
25. **Thomas Avenue in Lexington Manor** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
26. **Tin Top Court in Holland Forest** - proposed for deletion because has not been recorded and should not be on the Official Road Name List.
27. **Tippet Road (County Road #30201) in Hollywood** - propose correcting spelling to "Tippett Road"
28. **West Branch Lane in Great Mills** - propose correcting spelling to "Western Branch Lane".

29. **West Farm Road in Greenview West** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation if its existence.
30. **West Manor Lane in Valley Lee** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
31. **West Poplar Lane in North Town Creek** - proposed for deletion because have no documentation of its existence.
After the presentation the public hearing was opened for comments from the audience.

Mr. Joseph A. Soders questioned the proposed deletion of Bay Avenue in Hays Beach and stated that he has a Deed indicating its existence. A copy of the Deed was turned over to the Task Force for their information.

The public hearing was closed, and the record will remain open for ten days.

Road Naming Validation Process

In response to concerns addressed at the February 7 Public Forum, the Commissioners requested the Task Force to explain the validation process for the road naming system. Mrs. Connie Johnson showed the Commissioners the Assessment Office tax maps that are being used and pointed out that each name on the petitions were checked and double checked. She further advised that the Department of Planning and Zoning will be using computerized aerial photographs with the tax maps in the addressing process in order to provide a clearer understanding of property locations.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Streamlining Forum

Commissioner Thompson suggested that the Commissioners give consideration to the appointments for the Streamlining Forum and inquired as to the best method of soliciting nominees.

Leonardtwn Road - 911 Addressing System

Also Present: Joseph Densford, County Attorney

Commissioner Jarboe suggested that a method be developed to handle the naming/renaming of Leonardtown Road (Route 5 from Halfway House to Point Lookout). He stated that two petitions have been received (Point Lookout Road and St. Mary's Parkway) with a total of 1700 signatures and indicated there needs to be a process to handle this situation that would satisfy the majority of the people in the County.

County Attorney Densford stated that the first step would be to decide whether to make an exception for this portion of Route 5 by amending the standards in the Addressing Manual. Mr. Densford recommended that the decision on an exception to the Manual should follow the same process as the decision on the Manual.

The Commissioners indicated concurrence that there be a public hearing on the renaming of Leonardtown Road and requested the County Attorney to develop a recommendation as to the best way to proceed.

In addition discussion ensued as to the best method of notifying the community of the public hearing--whether to have a mailing or the regular notice of public hearing the newspaper.

**VILLAGE AT HUNTING QUARTER
APPLICATION FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDITS**

Present: William Adair, Applicant
Aleck Loker, Director, DECD
Dennis Nicholson, DECD

Mr. Adair explained that the purpose of this meeting was to explain the Hunting Quarter project and to request the Commissioners' support of the affordable housing project, a proposal to provide 53 single family detached rental housing units. He stated that he has made application to the State of Maryland for Low Income Housing Tax Credits to assist in the project. Mr. Adair pointed out that the State requires a letter of support indicating that the Commissioners are aware of the proposed development and are supportive of the need to provide affordable housing in the County. Rentals on the units will range from \$403 to \$680 depending on the family size and income levels. After 15 years, as required by federal regulations, renters will be allowed the option to purchase their home at a reduced cost.

In addition Mr. Adair stated that the State has indicated it would like to see local jurisdictions participate financially in the development, which can be in the form of a waiver or reduction of impact fees, water and sewer tap fees, building permit fees, etc. He advised that the State uses a point system and that local participation is a key point factor. However, Mr. Nicholson pointed out that a financial commitment by the county is not a requirement of the State.

In conclusion the Commissioners agreed to make a decision relative to the Letter of Support at next week's meeting.

PROCLAMATION - AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

The Commissioners presented a Proclamation designating the month of February as African American History Month.

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 1996
SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Present: Aleck Loker, Director, DECD
Dennis Nicholson, Deputy Director
Nancy Hutson, Loan Officer

Mr. Loker appeared before the Commissioners to review the action steps relative to the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. He explained that each jurisdiction is given an opportunity to apply to the State for Community Development Block Grant funds for a number of community development projects and are usually limited to \$800,000 per year and requires a local match (which is not always cash but can be in-kind contributions). In the past funds have been used to assist the conversion of public housing to home ownership, installation of water/sewer systems for low to moderate income families, and the commercial revitalization of Lexington Park.

Mr. Loker further explained that the first step in the CDBG process is the requirement for a public hearing to receive input from the citizens of the community on the types of project activities of interest to them. No financial commitment is required for this step. Possible projects for Fiscal Year 1996 could include community centers at Holland Forest and Patuxent Woods; business development incubator; planning grant for elder care in the 4th/5th districts; Patuxent Park Rent-to-Purchase Program; and Tulagi Area Commercial Development Loans.

In conclusion Mr. Loker requested authority from the Commissioners to proceed with the CDBG process.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize Mr. Loker to proceed with Step 1 of the CDBG process by scheduling a public hearing. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to meet in Executive Session to discuss a matter of Litigation (FERST), as provided in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8. Motion carried.

Litigation - FERST

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Joe Densford, County Attorney
Jon Grimm, Director, DPZ
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1

Time Held: 4:25 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Action Taken: County staff brought the Commissioners up to date with regard to the referenced legal action filed against the County by FERST.

COUNTY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION EXPRESSION OF CONCERNS

Present: County Employees
Interested Citizens

Representatives of the St. Mary's County Employees' Association appeared before the Commissioners to address several issues of concern of the employees. Issues and comments included:

- Photographs and articles in the *St. Mary's Today* that are sexist and of poor taste;
- Perceived support of the *Today* by Commissioners writing for it;
- Concern for low morale of county employees relative to current budget discussions;
- That county employees make many contributions to the community
- That the Commissioners should work as a team and give support and encouragement to the employees
- That employees are willing to work with the Commissioners in improving county government.

Mr. O'Dell distributed a list of questions which were addressed by each Commissioner.

After receiving additional comments from the audience the Commissioners thanked the employees for sharing their concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes Approved by Board of
County Commissioners on 2/21/95

Judith A. Spalding
Recording Secretary