

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 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

**HOLLAND FOREST GROUNDBREAKING**

The Commissioners attended the Holland Forest housing project groundbreaking ceremony on McIntosh Road.

**TOUR OF DETENTION CENTER**

The Commissioners took a tour of the St. Mary's Detention Center.

**ELECTION MACHINE SYSTEM ANALYSIS**

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator  
Charles Wade, Director of Finance  
Mary Pat Pope, Administrative Officer

As a follow up to a March 7 presentation, Ms. Pope distributed a handout setting forth cost comparisons between the current Shoup machines and the Optech Optic Scan Voting System from Fiscal Year 1996 through Fiscal Year 2002. She pointed out the various assumptions used in arriving at the figures including the increase in the number of voters (adding 16,000 more by year 2000 and an inflation factor of 4%).

In addition Ms. Pope pointed out certain comparisons including storage, maintenance, reporting of election results and absentee ballots, and space for candidates on the ballots.

After the presentation the Commissioners discussed costs per election, voter registration numbers, the number of additional machines that would be needed if staying with current Shoup system, and the freeing up of storage space if the new system was used.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to include the cost of the Optech System in the Straw Budget, solicit bids for approved voting systems to try to lower the costs, and make a determination at that time.

**FISCAL YEAR 1996 BUDGET**

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator  
Charles Wade, Director of Finance  
Martha Jones, Budget Analyst

As a follow up to previous discussions and reviews, Mr. Wade distributed an updated Fiscal Year "Strawman" Budget, addressed questions raised by the Commissioners at last week's meeting and requested direction relative to the public hearing schedule and signing of the budget. He stated that in order to proceed with the proposed April 18 and 25 dates for the public hearings and the publication requirements, the budget must be signed by March 29.



During discussion Commissioner Eagan pointed out that she and Commissioner Brugman were reviewing the budgets line by line in order to try to find \$859,000 of deletions in order to set the tax rate at the \$2.13 Constant Yield Tax Rate. She stated that they will present their findings to the Board and staff next Tuesday for review. The Commissioners agreed to decide on the public hearing dates and signing of the budget after the presentation of this information on Tuesday, March 28.

#### **HANOVER RUN (MYRTLE POINT) PROPERTY**

(Also Present: Aleck Loker, Director, DECD)

As a follow up to the March 21 presentation by the Recreation and Parks Board relative to the possible use of the Hanover Run property as a park, Commissioner Thompson suggested that the Board consider its options: (1) Schedule a public hearing; (2) request additional information; or (3) make a decision.

Discussion ensued as to what course of action can be taken at this time because the ownership of the property has not yet been resolved, the Commissioners indicated they would be interested in getting additional information from other groups. Mr. Loker suggested that the question that should be addressed is whether the County needs additional park land.

Other areas of discussion included: access to other park property in the County, use of Greenwell State Park, commercial/private use of the property (conference center, golf course), and current zoning and approved uses of the property.

In conclusion the Commissioners suggested hearing from other groups including the Economic Development Commission and Chamber of Commerce, and Commissioner Brugman suggested getting a report from the Myrtle Point Task Force giving its viewpoint on the Greenwell State Park property.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by Board of  
County Commissioners on 3/28/95**

*Juella A. Spalding*  
Recorder