

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**THURSDAY, May 4, 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 1:05 p.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE**  
**SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to sign and forward correspondence addressed to Ms. May Lu Bucci, Area Director, Special Olympics expressing regret at not being able to attend the rescheduled Special Olympics. Motion carried.

**AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION**

Present: Jon Grimm, Director, Planning and Zoning  
Donna Sasscer, Agricultural/Seafood Specialist  
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation Representatives  
Agriculture/Seafood Commission Representatives  
Department of Planning and Zoning Representatives

Mr. Grimm appeared before the Commissioners to review the revised Local Agricultural Certification Program to be submitted to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation and to the Maryland Office of State Planning. He explained that the purpose of the Program is to increase the County's ability to preserve productive farmland and to retain a larger percentage of the County's share of Agricultural Transfer Tax for use at the County level. Mr. Grimm noted that the County Commissioners in 1993 had submitted a program proposal to the State, which had been rejected because of deficiencies in certain areas. The program has been revised to correct the deficiencies and to demonstrate a program with the objective of preserving agricultural lands. Financial incentives are proposed as an alternative to sale for development purposes.

During his presentation Mr. Grimm explained the four components of the Program:

- The state program remains in operation for those desiring to participate
- A local enhancement of state agricultural easement purchase offers is proposed to lure more farm landowners into the program (if needed)
- A county-funded and managed Purchase of Development Rights Program that will utilize existing mechanisms for the purchase and retirement of farmland development rights
- The existing Transferable Development Rights Program remains in place.

During discussion of other aspects of the program Mr. Grimm indicated that the required local match for the program will be through in-kind services. He pointed out that the local program proposes that Donna Sasscer, the County's Agriculture/Seafood Specialist, would be the program Administrator and that costs associated with the position and overhead would be the County's contribution.

Other points relative to the Agricultural Land Preservation Program made by Director Grimm included:

- That the existing vacancy on the Agriculture Preservation Advisory Board needs to be filled.
- That if the certification is approved by the State by the summer, the additional mapping will be completed by fall.
- That the Program will be reviewed annually and can be amended.
- That annual reports will be submitted to the County Commissioners
- That the overall Agricultural Preservation program will be included in the Comprehensive Plan update.

Mr. Grimm advised that the Planning Commission and the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board have endorsed the program and have recommended the Commissioners approval for submission to the State.

At the conclusion of the presentation Mr. Grimm advised that he would prepare a Resolution for the Commissioners' signatures establishing the Agricultural Land Preservation Program and the Local Certification Program on Tuesday, May 9.

#### **FISCAL YEAR 1996 BUDGET REVIEW**

Present: Charles Wade, Director of Finance  
Martha Jones, Budget Analyst

As a follow up to last week's discussion the Commissioners reviewed additional budgetary requests that had been submitted subsequent to the April 19 and 25 public hearings and made tentative recommendations for additions/deletions to the Fiscal Year 1996 Budget as follows:

Fire/Rescue Appreciation Day	Add \$ 5,000
Airport Manager	Add \$31,680
DECD - Watermen's Assoc. (Potomac/Patuxent Rivers)	Add \$ 3,000
DECD - Printing & Binding	Add \$ 2,012
Sotterley	Add \$ 5,000
Emergency Services Committee	Add \$ 4,000
Board/Education	Add \$ 860
P/T Secretary-Circuit Court	Add \$ 7,000
Retirement/Pension	Add \$44,152
Add Sheriff (one car instead of 2)	Add \$19,000
Women's Center	Delete \$6500

Mr. Wade will return to the Commissioners on Tuesday, to discuss finalizing the Fiscal Year 1996 Budget.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to meet in Executive Session to discuss matters of Litigation (The Skydiving Center), potential Litigation, as provided in Article 24, Section 4-210(a) 8 and Personnel (Classifications), as provided in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1. Motion carried.

**Litigation - The Skydiving Center**

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President  
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman  
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Joe Densford, County Attorney  
Dan Ichniowski, Director, DPW  
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8  
Time Held: 3:20 p.m. - 4:02 p.m.

Action: Mr. Densford and Mr. Ichniowski briefed the Commissioners on the referenced legal matter and received direction from Board.

**Litigation**

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President  
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman  
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Joe Densford, County Attorney  
Dan Ichniowski, Director, DPW  
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8  
Time Held: 4:02 p.m. - 4:22 p.m.

Action: Mr. Densford and Mr. Chen briefed the Commissioners on the referenced legal matter

**Executive Session - Reclassifications**

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President  
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman  
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser  
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Charles Wade, Director of Finance  
George Foster, Personnel Officer

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1  
Time Held: 4:25 p.m. - 5:10 p.m.

Action: The Commissioners reviewed reclassification requests and received recommendations from county staff.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by Board of  
County Commissioners on 5-16-95**

Judith A. Spalding  
Recorder