

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 16, 1996**

Present Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
 Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
 Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
 Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
 Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
 Aleck Loker, County Administrator
 Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

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

Personnel

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
 Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
 Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
 Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
 Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
 Aleck Loker, County Administrator
 George Foster, Personnel Officer
 Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1
Time Held: 11:05 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed the referenced personnel matter.

Litigation (The Skydiving Center)

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
 Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
 Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
 Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
 Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
 Aleck Loker, County Administrator
 Doug Durkin, County Attorney
 Jim Haley, Procurement Officer
 Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8
Time Held: 11:20 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.

Action Taken: The County Attorney brought the Commissioners up to date relative to the referenced legal matter.

FOLLOW UP TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Skydiving Center

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to direct the County Attorney to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve the minutes of Tuesday, April 9, 1996 as corrected. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to accept the changes to today's meeting agenda (to add the Superintendent of Schools to the agenda at 4:30 p.m. to discuss FY '97 Budget funding). Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Present: Aleck Loker, County Administrator

- 1) **CDBG Grant - Neighborhood Center, Patuxent Woods
(Removal of Addendum for Subrecipient Agreement)**

Also Present: Doug Durkin, County Attorney

Mr. Durkin reminded the Commissioners of the presentation made before the Board of March 5 regarding the referenced Community Development Block Grant for Patuxent Woods Neighborhood Center, and that he had advised the Commissioners of the necessity to add a sufficient appropriations clause to the Subrecipient Agreement between the County and the Housing Authority. He reported that he has since learned that the six-year obligation is imposed upon the Housing Authority and not upon St. Mary's County. The Attorney General had objected to the addendum to the Agreement and that the funds for the project could not be released until the addendum was removed.

Therefore, Mr. Durkin presented correspondence addressed to the Department of Housing and Community Development authorizing the removal of the Addendum attached to the Subrecipient Agreement.

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the letter to HUD as presented. Motion carried.

- 2) **Health Benefit Plan Discussion**

Also Present: George Foster, Personnel Officer

As a follow up to last week's discussion Mr. Loker and Mr. Foster presented various options for the Commissioners' consideration relative to county employees' health benefits. Mr. Foster explained the current coverages, the major differences between the traditional and PPN coverages; number of employees by type of coverage, employee contribution comparisons, various options with county cost savings for each and possible changes to employees' premiums.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to discuss this issue at the April 30 meeting and to be prepared to make a decision.

3) **Correspondence**

The County Administrator presented the following correspondence for the Commissioners' review and consideration.

- a. To Esther J. Wynn regarding budget process.
- b. To County Extension Director regarding request to fill a temporary position.²
- c. To Lincoln Residential Builders, Inc. regarding inspections by MDIA; to MDIA forwarding a copy of Mr. Abell's letter.
- d. To Maryland Department of Environment regarding sewage sludge permit application for William and Eliza Davis property located at Charlotte Hall Road; DNR property on Cornfield Harbor Road; and the Southstar Limited Partnership Site located on Maypole Road.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan to sign and forward letters(a) through (d), as presented. Motion carried.

- e. To Chairs of Boards/Committees expressing appreciation for Annual Report presentation/submittal.
- f. To various individuals regarding tax rate and board of education budget.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to sign and forward letters (d) and (e), as presented. Motion defeated zero to five because the letters regarding the tax rate and board of education budget was the incorrect letter. (The correct letters will be presented to the Commissioners at next week's meeting.)

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to sign and forward the letters to Chairs expressing appreciation for presentation/submittal of annual reports (letters d), as presented. Motion carried.

3) **Waterway Improvement Grant Applications**

On behalf of the Director of Recreation and Parks the County Administrator presented the following Waterway Improvement Grant Applications for the Commissioners' consideration:

- a. Refuse Collection at 15 public landings (\$4,500)
- b. Placement of portable toilets at 9 public landings (\$4,500)
- c. Minor maintenance at various public landings (\$5,000)

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Applications as presented. Motion carried.

4) **Office of Community Services Grant Applications**

On behalf of the Office of Community Services the County Administrator presented the following Grant Applications for the Commissioners' consideration:

- a. Alliance for Alcohol Drug Abuse Prevention Grant Application to Chesapeake Bay Trust for the Summer Camps Program (field trip) - (\$1,000; local match - \$1,025)
- b. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention ADAA Grant Renewal Application (county in-kind match only)

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the grant applications as presented. Motion carried.

5) **Budget Amendment No. 96-45**
State's Attorney's Office

Also Present: Judy Pedersen, Public Information Specialist

The County Administrator presented the referenced Budget Amendment recommended for approval by the Director of Finance with the following justification: Additional expense for entertainment for Project Graduation (\$1,000)

After explanation of the Budget Amendment by Ms. Pedersen, Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the document as presented. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners presented the following Proclamations:

- **Scholarship Foundation Month**- Designating the Month of April as *Dollars for Scholars Month*
- **Big Brothers/Big Sisters Appreciation Week** - Designating the Week of April 21 - 27
- **National Organ and Tissue Donor Week** - Designating the Week of April 21 - 27, 1996

OFFICE ON AGING (DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE)

Present: Gene Carter, Director

Mr. Carter appeared before the Commissioners to present the Office on Aging's departmental update which included Senior Programs (funding, organizational issues, special events and projects) Medical Adult Day Services (program operations summary, staff issues (program manager, second medical supervisor), program assistant certification program, community awareness effort, quality assurance program, potential expansion of program services); Transportation (public transportation, other service enhancements, coordination of service with Health Department, coordination with other transportation providers); and Northern Service Location.

During his presentation Mr. Carter referred to the Efficiency Task Force Recommendations regarding transportation (which he disagreed with and will be submitting a detailed response to the ETF for the Commissioners' consideration) and OOA organization. He suggested that he, the County Administrator, and the Personnel Officer develop a detailed proposal within the framework of the task force recommendation for the Commissioners' consideration.

In addition Mr. Carter referred to the four vacant positions in the transportation program and coordination with the Health Department for the medical assistance transportation services it provides. The Health Department would allow its present contract for transportation to expire on July 1 which requires a 60-day notification and the Office on Aging would develop a service agreement with the Health Department for the provision of services and the rate of reimbursement. Mr. Carter pointed out that this coordination could not occur without the additional transportation positions and extension of the core service route, and he suggested that these positions be added through a 12-month temporary appointment. The coordination of services would then be evaluated during the 12 months.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to discuss the issue on April 30

RESIDENTIAL ALTERNATIVES FOR YOUTH ANNUAL REPORT

Present: Paul Enoch, Director
Michael Whitson, President

The referenced representatives of the Residential Alternatives for Youth appeared before the Commissioners to present the group's Annual Report for 1995. The report included a description of its five core programs (In-Home Intervention; TRIAD Care, TRIAD House, Crisis Program, and Independent Living Program); funding sources, the importance of county funding because of not being fully funded by the State; and the numbers of clients for each program.

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

COMMISSION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Present: Larry Pinto, Chair
Tony Pitt, Member

The referenced representatives of the Commission for the Environment appeared before the Commissioners to present the group's Annual Report for 1995. Mr. Pinto highlighted certain areas of the report including problems and challenges (poor responses to communications, not being given tasks by Commissioners; impact of county growth not being adequately addressed) and giving recommendations regarding the problems and challenges.

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

WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION STUDY

Present: Mark Carpenter, David M. Griffith & Associates, Ltd.
George Foster, Personnel Officer

The referenced representatives of David M. Griffith & Associates appeared before the Commissioners to present the Final Report on the Wage and Classification Study for St. Mary's County Government. Mr. Carpenter reviewed the Scope of Services requested by the County, which included using the County's existing job evaluation system and conducting a wage and salary survey of public and private sectors in St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert Counties; the study process and classification methodology and recommendation and implementation issues. Discussion ensued relative to steps and COLA's and Mr. Carpenter indicated there were two options relative to steps: 11 steps with 15-year range maximum; and open range system which based on performance.

In conclusion the Commissioners thanked Mr. Carpenter for his presentation and advised they would take the recommendations under advisement.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Wicomico Golf Club

As a follow up to last week's comments, Commissioner Jarboe advised that he received confirmation that the trash has been removed from the woods of the Wicomico Golf Club.

Shore Clean Up Day

In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Thompson, County Administrator Loker advised that he received a call from the Department of Natural Resources advising of the Shore Clean Up Day scheduled for April 20. DNR has requested waiver of tipping fees and for the provision of equipment, and Mr. Loker stated that he has requested the Director of Public Works to contact DNR regarding this program.

**ST. MARY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FISCAL YEAR 1997 BUDGET**

Present: Joan Kozlovsky, Superintendent of Schools
Elaine Kramer, Director, Budget and Finance, Public Schools
Steve Welkos, County Director of Finance

The referenced representatives of the St. Mary's Public Schools appeared before the Commissioners to present additional funding sources for the Bd/Ed's FY '97 Budget. Dr. Kozlovsky advised that additional funding from the 1996 legislative session (MSDE appropriation and State Impact Fund), additional funding from the FY '96 federal budget carryover (Impact Aid and DOD Supplemental); and funds from insurance premium refunds would provide an additional \$1,586,930 which could be used to fund the balance of the Board of Education's FY '97 budget.

Discussion ensued relative to whether the additional funding would affect the Maintenance of Effort and the funding of Bd/Ed COLA's.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to take the request under advisement.

7:00 P.M.

**PUBLIC HEARING
FISCAL YEAR 1997 RECOMMENDED BUDGET
(BOARD OF EDUCATION)
(Held at Leonardtown High School)**

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Aleck Loker, County Administrator
Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

Also Present: Joan Kozlovsky, Superintendent of Schools
John Roth, Vice President, Board of Education
Julie Randall, "
Fred Wallace, "
Shanaysha Furlow, student, "

The Board of County Commissioners conducted a public hearing on the Board of Education portion of the Fiscal Year 1997 Recommended Budget.

Comments were received from the following individuals:

Deanna Pinno (in support of Bd/Ed Budget; concerned about overcrowded classrooms).
Owen T. Miller (supported lowering tax rate to \$2.11)
Anne Woodley (requested Commissioners to fund full Bd/Ed request and requested that the tax rate not be lowered).
Emily Jackson (Education should be a priority; tax rate should remain at \$2.13 or increased)
Scott Bruce (Supported full education budget)
Viet Nguyen - student at Leonardtown High School (need for additional classrooms)
Cindy Garner (Supported Bd/Ed budget)
Marilyn Crosby (Supported Bd/Ed budget, teachers' salaries and COLA's)
Karen Lowry (Urged Commissioners to maintain property tax rate at \$2.13 to fund needed community services and the bd/ed budget.)

Dwayne Drake (Concerned about needed space for anticipated additional students; supported COLA's.)

Peggy Densford (Urged Commissioners to fund full bd/ed budget; requested that property tax rate not be reduced).

Lynn Duff (concerned about class size; supported funding full bd/ed budget)

Stephen Kracinovich (supported funding full bd/ed budget)

Cyndy Cartwright (Supported full funding of bd/ed budget; recommended that tax rate be set at \$2.23 to fund education)

Charles Purcell (Supported bd/ed budget)

Mary Weiskopf and Suzanne Cartwright (Supported full funding of bd/ed budget; COLA's; disagreed with lowering tax rate to \$2.11).

Alice Willingham (Supported fully funding bd/ed budget; disagreed with lowering tax rate)

Chris Jung (Supported funding of two additional guidance counselors)

Michael Hewitt (supported full funding of bd/ed budget; wanted to see unity among the Commissioners, delegates, and senator; would be willing to pay more taxes for education).

Pat Davidson (Supported full funding of bd/ed budget)

Christopher Gill (supported bd/ed budget)

Julie Foxtan (Supported full funding of bd/ed budget)

Patricia S. White (Supported full funding of bd/ed budget; supported a tax increase)

Beverly Hargraves (Supported full funding of bd/ed budget including COLA's)

Jan Emerson (Supported bd/ed budget)

Ward Zimmerman (Supported bd/ed budget if there is accountability)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Minutes Approved on 4/23/96
by Board of St. Mary's County Commissioners

Judith A. Spalding
Recording Secretary