

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
MAY 6, 1997**

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
John J. Kachmar Jr., County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

**MCI SYSTEMHOUSE
INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP**

Present: Lawrence D. Consalvos, Managing Director
James W. Dundas, Jr., Project Manager
Maria M. Cardiellos, Manager

The referenced representatives of MCI Systemhouse appeared before the Commissioners to explain the background of MCI Systemhouse, and to provide an overview of its services and offerings relative to 911 communications systems for county-wide public safety operations. Included in the presentation was the concept of outsourcing (the municipality would purchase the services and MCI would purchase the equipment), with an example cited, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, the first fully outsourced Enhanced 911 system in North America. During explanation of its services, the representatives advised that MCI would revalidate the municipality's 911 plan, assess the communications infrastructure, and implement the plan.

In closing Mr. Consalvos recommended that the Commissioners visit Northampton County in order to view an outsourced 911 system that is in place.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to approve the minutes of Tuesday, April 29, 1997 including the Planning and Zoning portion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve the Agenda as amended (adding a Proclamation for National REACT Month at 7 p.m.). Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included the following:

1. Correspondence

- a. To Petitioners regarding plans for Myrtle Point.
- b. To Harry J. Geraty responding to erosion concerns in Esperanza Farms Subdivision.
(Commissioner Brugman inquired from Director of Public Works Ichniowski as to the source of erosion problem at this site, and Mr. Ichniowski explained that when Mr. Geraty acquired a portion of the adjacent lot and graded it, the erosion problem was created.)
- c. To Charles Fadeley regarding plans for Myrtle Point.
- d. To John J. Fuchs responding to request to down zone farm near Mechanicsville.
- e. To Maryland Office of Planning forwarding the County's comments on State Clearinghouse Application #MD970319-0195 - Maryland Department of Environment - Leonardtown Water Distribution and Sewerage System Rehabilitation, Phase I.
- f. To Joseph C. Krafty expressing congratulations on the occasion of his Eagle Scout rank award.
- g. To Margaret E. Cheseldine responding to concerns regarding vandalism in the Colton's Point area.
- h. To J. E'lise Thompson responding to concerns regarding Wildewood Parkway.
(Commissioner Thompson pointed out that Wildewood is a PUD and as such there is a right-of-way reservation and at some point the road will be widened.)
- i. To Tom Wisner responding to comments concern development in the north end of the County.

2. Maryland HotSpot Communities Initiative Commitment of Chief Elected Official

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Present: John J. Kachmar Jr., County Administrator

1. Budget Amendments

- a. No. 97-51 - Public Schools
(To award construction contract for Chopticon High School Relocatable Phase I project; funds needed to meet the local share of a State relocation of a unit for the addition/renovation project - \$28,000)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 97-51. Motion carried.

- b. No. 97-52 - Recreation and Parks
(To support the cost for parking lot asphalt removal and seeding at Wicomico Shores Public Landing)

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 97-52. Motion carried.

c. Department Public Works Budget Amendments

Also Present: Dan Ichniowski, Director

At the request of the Commissioners, Mr. Ichniowski appeared before the Board to provide an explanation of the following budget amendments that had been held by the Board for clarification:

- (1) No. 97-34 - Overtime costs for remainder of FY '97 (\$20,000)

(Mr. Kachmar requested that this budget amendment be held because of incorrect figures that are being researched by the Finance Department.)

- (2) No. 97-45 - Millstone Landing Bridge (\$218,000)

Mr. Ichniowski advised that it is a county bridge on a county road (according to records in the archives there was a reference in 1883 to the road being maintained by the County); that a replacement had been done in the 1960's; the county receives gas tax revenue for the road; and the problem is with the substructure of the bridge and emergency vehicles could not use it. Other areas of discussion included the number of families served, that there were private property signs, whether the bridge and road could be offered to the property owners, and the cost of repairs compared to other bridge repairs. Mr. Ichniowski indicated that this was an estimate, included a temporary structure, and that the Navy may allow access on a temporary basis which could reduce the cost.

After discussion the Commissioners directed Mr. Ichniowski to proceed with getting bids to determine actual costs and in the meantime inquired whether the property owners want to make it private.

- (3) No. 97-48 - Surface Treatment (\$87,941)

Mr. Ichniowski indicated that costs for the surface treatment contract have risen 29% since Fiscal Year 1992 (additional \$80,000); extreme wet and mild temperature winter of 1997 caused damage to roads (high amount of rain caused base failure and the freeze/thaw cycle).

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 97-48. Motion carried.

2. Grant Documents

a. Board of Education

(Letter to Board of Education approving inclusion of following State Grant Award in the Board of Education's FY '97 Budget: Southern Maryland Early Intervention College Preparation Program - \$2,000)

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to sign and forward the letter to the Board of Education as presented. Motion carried.

b. Office of Community Services - Summer of Safety Arts Camps

(in the amount of \$25,000 for the period July 1, 1997 - September 10, 1997)

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

- c. Circuit Court - Cooperative Reimbursement Child Support
(in the amount of \$46,788 - federal funding; \$28,407- local)

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

3. Resolutions

- a. No. 97-17
Negotiation for Sale of Property (PRB Associates, St. Mary's Industrial Park)
(follow up to action taken by County Commissioners on April 29, 1997)

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve and sign the Resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- b. Road Name Changes
 - (1) No. Z97-01
Poplar Street; Holly Grove Farm Lane; Bay Brez Lane; Oregon Way; Flag Court;
Stephenson Drive; Corporate Drive; Lily Pond Lane; Deerhaven Lane; Myrtle Way;
and Honey Tree Lane.

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

- (2) No. Z97-02
Kinders Lane

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

- (3) No. Z97-03
Mariner Lane; Deer Pond Lane; Briscoe Anderson Lane.

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

4. Department of Public Works Items

- a. Right-of-Way Easement between St. Mary's County and Bell Atlantic for a utility easement through the Higher Education property, Sixth Election District.

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

- b. Addendum to Public Works Agreement for **Lexington Park Corporate Center**; backed by a Letter of Credit in the amount of \$43,700 provided by **Maryland Bank & Trust Company**.

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

- c. Addendum to Public Works Agreement for **Richneck Subdivision, Section 2**; backed by a Letter of Credit amount of \$55,600 provided by **First National Bank of St. Mary's**.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Addendum as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Commissioner Eagan abstaining in that she is on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of St. Mary's.

5. Request by County Attorney for Release of Executive Session Minutes

Also Present: Steve Norman, Assistant County Attorney

Mr. Norman explained that a request was received from the attorney for the Metropolitan Commission for access to the Board of County Commissioners' executive session minutes of 1994 concerning negotiations for lease of the St. Mary's Press Building in that MetComm is pursuing litigation against JJ Mailing. Commissioner Thompson suggested that the minutes be reviewed prior to being released to ensure the information being sought is contained in the minutes. Mr. Norman responded that the trial is scheduled later this week and there was a question of time.

After discussion Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to allow the Assistant County Attorney access to the minutes as requested by the attorney for MetComm. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to allow the County Attorney/Assistant County Attorney to make the decision that if the minutes contain the information relative to MetComm's legislation to release that information to MetComm. Motion carried four to one with Commissioner Thompson voting against stating that the information should be reviewed by the Commissioners prior to release.

6. County Commissioners' Pending List

The County Administrator reviewed the current Pending List, addressed the status of each. Comments included:

Fire/Rescue Procurement Policy - Staff working with auditors to make a determination as to what is needed;

Jones Intercable Realignment Proposal - County Administrator to draft letter indicating the County considers the matter closed.

Lexington Park Master Plan - To get written progress report from DPZ.

Radio Communications - Presentation earlier in the meeting on an alternative method of communications (outsourcing).

Board of Education Administration Facilities - To get a progress report from DPW.

Southern Maryland Wood Treatment Plant Site - County Administrator and County Attorney to discuss viability of the land and liability after cleanup.

Community College Proposal - County Administrator will contact administrators from Calvert and Charles Counties to determine interest in summer study.

Courthouse Project - County Administrator to schedule DPW and the architect for the project to come before the board for a progress report and to review the plans.

Landfill RFP - Selection Committee established; going through regular bid process and bids being rated (two bids received with a third coming in late that could not be included).

Strategic Plan - County Administrator to work on RFP for a survey.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners presented the following Proclamations:

- * Designating May 11-17, 1997 as Historic Preservation Week
- * Designating May 11-17, 1997 as National Nursing Home Week

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Present: Lynne Redmond, Chair
Mary Ann Chasen
Lorraine Wallace
Charles Young
Mary Wood, Librarian

The referenced individuals appeared before the Board to present the Library Board of Trustee's Annual Report for 1997. The report included the Board's purpose, significant activities of the past year (Internet-based automation system; revised personnel policy manual; revised bylaws, considered space needs of the Lexington Park Library and received Library Services and Construction Act Funds to conduct a study to determine size, location, design issues, etc.) challenges (keeping pace with additional demands due to population growth and keeping pace with changing technological environment), and plans for the current year (ensure progress on the Lexington Park Library expansion/relocation).

ACCEPTANCE OF DEEDS TO PROPERTIES NOT SOLD AT TAX SALE

Present: Douglas Durkin, County Attorney
Jan Norris, County Treasurer

Mr. Durkin and Ms. Norris appeared before the Board to present five deeds for properties that had not been sold at the tax sale in 1994. Mr. Durkin advised that it is the County's current policy to acquire all properties not sold at tax sale, which results in the County acquiring property that may be of no use to the County. He indicated to the Board that he and the County Treasurer are developing a revision to the procedures which would include circulating a list of the properties not sold to determine if there is a governmental use. If there is no public use a public hearing would be scheduled to dispose of the properties.

After discussion Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to accept the following deeds to properties not sold at tax sale. Motion carried.

- * 1.0 acres±, Route 5, Ridge, Tax Ma 71, Parcel 502
- * 1.0 acres±, Wynne Road, Tax Map 70, Parcel 67
- * .40 acres±, Fifth Election District, Carroll Manor Subdivision
- * boundary of Bernard Edwards' land, Fourth Election District
- * Lot 13, Third Subdivision, Scotland Beach

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS**

Present: William Kemp, Chair, EMS
Keith Fairfax, "
Betsy Myers, "
Douglas Durkin, County Attorney

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to request approval of proposed revisions to the bylaws for the Emergency Services Committee, which have been reviewed and approved by the County Attorney. The revisions include the addition to Article VI: Duties of Officers regarding appointment of members from ESC to conduct a public hearing; and to Article IX: Duties and Responsibilities regarding conducting public hearings for the St. Mary's County Commissioners.

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve the revisions to the bylaws for the Emergency Services Committee as presented.

After discussion County Administrator Kachmar advised that he and the County Attorney met with ESC representatives to explore financing issues and stated that there is legislation which allows the County to borrow money for the fire departments at a lower rate than private activity bonds being used by the fire departments. There are administrative details that need to be worked out.

COLTON ENDOWMENT TASK FORCE

Present: Gene Carter, Director, Office on Aging

Mr. Carter appeared before the Board to request that Dr. William Marek be appointed to the Colton Endowment Task Force.

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to appoint Dr. Marek to the Colton Endowment Task Force as requested.

During discussion of the motion County Administrator Kachmar indicated he believed there was some misunderstanding of the role of the task force. He pointed out that the letter from the Commissioners tells the Task Force to review proposals, and he did not believe the Commissioners intended for the group to review RFP's and review of the RFP's is a county procurement policy. The Task Force has, however, put together a well-structured items list for which should be in the proposal and that the group by compiling that list has completed its task. Mr. Kachmar did suggest, however, that some members of the task force could be part of the selection committee.

Mr. Carter explained that the task force in August of 1996 put an article in the local newspaper inviting interested parties to submit ideas to provide input as to what could be done with the Colton endowment funds. The task force received responses from three or four entities and the task force was interested in getting additional information in order to prepare a list of all the points it wanted two of the organizations to address. Subsequently the state provided the task force with input with the bottom line that there needed to be more emphasis on assisted senior living and contacted two other organizations, which sent the task force some materials explaining projects they had successfully completed. The list compiled by the task force was sent to the State Office on Aging, which provided additional information. The Task Force wanted to invite the four organizations to present a proposal for use of the Colton endowment funds and to present the proposals to the County Commissioners.

In conclusion the Commissioners indicated they would like the task force to come before the board to present the check list after which the County could then proceed with the RFP.

After discussion voted on the motion was 1 to 4 with Commissioners Thompson, Brugman, Eagan and Jarboe voting against stating that the issue was not the capability of Dr. Marek but the fact that the Task Force had completed its work.

**PUBLIC HEARING
FISCAL YEAR 1997 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION**

Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
Joe Suchinsky, Accountant

The Board of County Commissioners conducted public hearings on the following three Fiscal Year 1997 supplemental appropriations:

Office of Community Services

Appropriation of \$24,338 in State grant funds to the Office of Community Services for the purpose of providing a continuation of the existing Lexington Park Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program.

Office of Community Services

Appropriation of \$3,000 in State grant funds to the Office of Community Services for the purpose of conducting a "Hooked on Fishing - not Drugs" Program for youth.

Marcey House

Appropriation of \$20,000 in State grant funds to the Marcey House for the purpose of providing a new van to assist with transportation needs of Marcey House residents.

No comments were received from the audience; the public hearing was closed and the record will remain open for ten days.

**PUBLIC HEARING
HOLLYWOOD SHORES SHORE EROSION DISTRICT**

Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
Jay McGrath, Department of Public Works
Douglas Durkin, County Attorney

The Commissioners conducted a public hearing to receive comments on the levying of a benefit charge in the amount of \$39.47 on all affected property owners in the Hollywood Shores Shore Erosion District. The loan from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources is in the amount of \$117,690.80.

A public hearing on the establishment of the district, the district was established in 1991, and a subsequent hearing held on May 9, 1995 to present the specifications and construction cost estimates for the stone revetment and timber bulkhead at Hollywood Shores.

The Commissioners opened the hearing for comments from the public:

Francis Holmes - Stated it was his understanding that the gates to the shore were to remain open; however, there are signs saying "No Trespassing."

Ron Nicholson - inquired if the \$39.47 charge was per property owner or per property. (The charge is based on per property owner.)

Lee Edgecomb - Advised that he addressed issue of the gate and the road with the Civic Association and he cannot get answers regarding access to the beach.

Elizabeth Reynolds - Indicated there was a gate and there was a space that people could walk through; however, some people did not want to walk, they wanted to drive.

- * Commissioner Thompson questioned whether the issue of the gate and the sign were germane to the public hearing stating she believed it was a civic association matter.
- * County Attorney Durkin advised there was a checklist for requirements for a taxing district, and he believed that this was an issue outside of the parameters of what is required.
- * Commissioner Eagan indicated that the issue was that some of the property owners have indicated they did not object to paying the assessment for shore erosion if they had access to the property for which they were paying the charge; however, some are saying they do not have access to the shore.
- * Mr. Durkin indicated that access was not an issue for this hearing.

Ray Rollins - Advised that there was community access to the shore; however, there was a fee of \$200 to belong to the civic association to use the facilities (pool, etc.), and some people did not want to pay that fee.

George Paxton - Expressed agreement with Mr. Rollins and stated that the confusion was the term "access; " everyone has access by walking.

Lee Edgecomb - Stated he has not heard anything mentioned about disabled, handicapped, elderly or infant's access.

Francis Holmes - Stated he disagreed with Mr. Rollins stating that the term "access" means all means of access.

Jonathan Reynolds - Stated there was also a \$10 lot fee.

Lorena Nicholson - stated that the community appreciates the work that has been done.

Commissioner Eagan - Presented a letter and picture submitted by Elliott A. Posner expressing concern regarding restricted access to the area; that civic association members have unlimited access.

Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was closed. The record will remain open for ten days.

(Staff will research to determine if there was a condition in the establishing Ordinance regarding opening of the gate.)

BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS

Present: Jeanne E. Bilanin, Project Consultant, Institute for Governmental Services
Victor K. Tervalva, Consultant, "
Consuella M. Barbour, Consultant, "
Douglas Durkin, County Attorney

The referenced representatives of the Institute for Governmental Services, University of Maryland, appeared before the Board to get clarification relative to the scope of work for a study of the County's boards, committees, commissions. Ms. Bilanin pointed out that it was her understanding that IGS would be doing a "macro" kind of project, an overview of boards and committees, looking at each one, documenting the functions of each and making recommendations. She stated she did not envision going into depth of how each individual board and committee worked, and if this is the direction the Commissioners want to go, the \$2,000 fee would have to be reassessed.

Areas of discussion included:

- * Determining whether there was an overlap of responsibility and cutting down on the number of boards; consolidation.
- * Having discussions with department heads and getting their ideas about boards/committees.
- * Looking at those boards that are mandated; those that are perceived as policy making boards.
- * Reviewing issue of staff (including clerical and legal) support which has become a problem because of volume.
- * Looking at application process relative to conflicts of interest problems.
- * Looking at numbers of members on boards.
- * Focusing on state/local boards and looking at whether a local board could be eliminated if the function was being handled by a state board.
- * Looking at "spin off" boards, and if bylaws or enabling legislation stipulate whether there could be subcommittees.
- * Liability issues.

During discussion Mr. Tervala indicated that from this discussion he believes that the project required by the Commissioners is what the original scope of work entailed (looking at how boards interface with the Commissioners, consolidation (which does not require IGS to go deeply into the functions of each of the boards, and that if there is apparent overlap do a more detailed review), looking at enabling legislation and making a determination whether to consolidate or eliminate. Mr. Durkin further suggested that the consultants look at whether a board is a constituted component unit to ensure that audit is done lawfully and completely.

In conclusion the representatives of IGS indicated that the original completion date of the study was May 31; however, that is now not feasible, and they would work with the County Administrator in establishing a completion date.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

FERST

Relative to testimony given to the Judge on April 25 by Mr. Pickett's attorney in the referenced litigation matter, Commissioner Thompson, in response to comments relative to "alleged" statements made by her to Mr. Pickett, owner of FERST, advised the Commissioners of the following: that at Congressman Hoyer's wife's (sister of Mr. Pickett) wake, she expressed her sympathy, and on the following Monday was visited by Mr. Pickett in her office at the Governmental Center. She spoke to him about his sister's death, and he pointed out that he did not come to St. Mary's County any more except to visit his sister during her illness. Mr. Pickett mentioned his proposed development for the stump dump property, and that she said nothing to him about it nor made any promises. There was more discussion about his sister and then he left. After he left she spoke with the County Attorney regarding the meeting, and he did not think it was significant enough to inform Mr. Chen (the county's attorney from LGIT). She emphasized that this was "about grief" and not about FERST.

The attorney from LGIT, William Chen, will be coming before the Board at next week's meeting to provide a briefing on the status of this case.

(Commissioner Thompson left the meeting 5:00 p.m. and Commissioner Vice President Eagan presided over the meeting.)

REACTIVATION

ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Present: Douglas Durkin, County Attorney
Nancy Hutson, Community Development Program Manager

Mr. Durkin appeared before the Board to present and review documentation relative to the reactivation of the Community Development Corporation. He stated that the independent, non-profit private corporation, which had been established by the County in 1985, was deactivated by the Commissioners by Resolution No. 94-13 in 1994. The SMCCDC, on which three County employees served, was established to serve as a subrecipient for federal grant funds for an affordable housing mortgage loan program. In 1994 it was determined that the CDC was no longer needed and was deactivated by Resolution No. 94-13. County Attorney stated that the County had no legal authority to form the corporation.

Relative to the reactivation of CDC, Mr. Durkin pointed out there were three significant events: in 1996 the new director of DECD inquired as to what was needed in order to reactivate the CDC; the County reorganized the Housing Authority and split the functions of community development and economic development from housing projects; U. S. Congress' decision regarding "welfare-to-work" program.

In order to utilize the SMCCDC as a vehicle to implement low income neighborhood revitalization and welfare-to-work programs, for which State and Federal funding is available, the SMCCDC must be reactivated by rescinding Resolution No. 94-13.

After review and discussion the County Attorney requested approval of the following:

- * Resolution No. 97-18 Rescinding Resolution No. 94-13 .

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe to approve and sign Resolution No. 97-18 rescinding Resolution No. 94-13. Motion carried.

- * Concept Approval of a Service Contract Between Board of County Commissioners and SMCCDC.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners to direct the County Attorney to draft the Service Contract.

- * Resolution No. 97-19 Authorizing County Attorney to Continue to Provide Legal Services to SMCCDC.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and sign Resolution No. 97-19 as presented. Motion carried.

- * Appointments to SMCCDC

The Commissioners took the consideration of appointments under advisement until the Board of Directors had an opportunity to review and make recommendations regarding appointments. Draft bylaws will be submitted to the Commissioners.

PERSONNEL

Commissioner Chesser moved to meet in Executive Session to discuss a matter of Personnel (response to letter from county employee). Motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to meet in Executive Session to discuss a matter of Personnel (waiver of county leave policy). Motion failed two to two.

7:00 P. M.

PROCLAMATION

The Commissioners presented a Proclamation designating the week of May 11 - 17, 1997 as National REACT Month.

PUBLIC FORUM

The Commissioners conducted the regular monthly public forum and accepted comments from the audience:

Lee Soderberg (Coalition to Preserve Myrtle Point) - Offered comments as to what the Coalition envisioned for Myrtle Point (facility to house exhibits, concerts, areas for children to play, walking areas) that the Myrtle Point experience should be a happy one and thanked the Commissioners for acquiring it.

Carlene Jarboe - Pointed out the need for fields in the County and referred to a petition that had been circulated at her church and that she did not believe that some of the people signing understood what they were signing. People who have children who participates in sports signed it, and the petition was to keep Myrtle Point a passive park.

Dick Myers - (1) Requested update on zoning ordinance with respect to animal regulations. (Commissioner Thompson advised that the Comprehensive Plan (which has a July 1 deadline) is being reviewed and updated after which the Zoning Ordinance will be addressed); requested the Commissioners to form an ad hoc group to look at animal control regulations; pointed out that zoning should not be intent on "killing farming" because of the RPD zoning, the least restrictive zoning in the county, and the Commissioners should consider an Agricultural Zone.

Wayne Suit - Expressed concern relative to the Comprehensive Plan meeting held April 17 in the northern district and the presentation of an overlay to make the northern end of the county a development district. (Commissioner Thompson advised that it was zoned as a Town Center and that anything in a Development District can be in a Town Center, but there is more control. There can be a PUD which can allow for more control because the developer and DPZ work out a long-range plan with give and take.)

Ken Hastings - Reiterated his request for a full set of documents relative to Myrtle Point (which he had requested in writing and responded to by County Administrator Kachmar); referred to the County Attorney's memorandum to the Planning Commission regarding Myrtle Point with references to the fact that the Task Force had not been legally formed. (Commissioners Thompson and Jarboe indicated that the memo went directly to the Planning Commission by the County Attorney and had not been reviewed by the County Commissioners.)

Doug Ritchie - Presented philosophical statements relative division of wealth in the county (the mien income), projects in the county that are costs to the taxpayers (curbing at the old Montana Bar location), and low income housing concerns (distance between houses).

(A tape of the proceeding is on file in the Commissioners' Office.)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by Board of
County Commissioners on 5/13/97
Judith A. Spalding
Judith A. Spalding
Recording Secretary**

