

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
October 27, 1998**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, October 20, 1998, as presented. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER**

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the check register, as presented. Motion carried.**

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to accept the agenda as amended (to add a Proclamation for National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month). Motion carried.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Correspondence to:

Baltimore-Washington Telephone Company, responding to inquiry as to local taxes or fees on telephone services.

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

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS**

Present: Mortimer L. Smedley, Assistant County Administrator

- \* Draft Agenda – November 3, 1998
- \* Calendar of Events
- 1. Budget Amendments
  - a. 99-7 – Finance Office  
(Overtime for Recycling Display at Blessing of the Fleet - \$250)

**Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-7 as presented. Motion carried.**

- b. 99-8 – Recreation and Parks  
(For additional A/E work required because of changes to the County's Comprehensive Plan - \$2,900)

**Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-8 as presented. Motion carried.**

- c. 99-9 – Recreation and Parks  
(Additional costs associated with parking improvements around the Leonard Hall R&P Center - \$8,000)

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-9 as presented. Motion carried.**

- 2. Department of Public Works  
Public Works Agreement for Greens Rest Farms Subdivision, 2nd Election District; backed by Letter of Credit with First National Bank of St. Mary's in the amount of \$154,400

**Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Public Works Agreement for Greens Rest Farms as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Commissioner Eagan abstaining because she is on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of St. Mary's.**

- 3. Grant Documents
  - a. Office of Central Services  
Grant Agreement from Maryland Aviation Administration for the Airport Master Plan Update  
(Total Project Cost: \$175,110 – Federal - \$157,599; State - \$8,755)

**Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the grant documents as presented. Motion carried.**

- b. Department of Economic and Community Development  
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application in the amount of \$770,000 (construction of Dakota Place Family Center)

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Grant Application and other related documents (including Resolution No. 98-45), as presented. Motion carried.**

- 4. FY 2000 Budget Instructions

Also Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance

Mr. Welkos reviewed the budget instructions; explained the projected revenues for Fiscal Year 2000; proposed capital projects for public schools, how to handle the available June 30, 1998 fund balance, and pointed out that no specific action can be taken on the fund balance until the completion of the audit. The Commissioners requested additional information relative to the fund balance and a report from the Department of Public Works regarding the importance of moving forward with the slurry seal program (which is one of the projects to be considered from the fund balance).

**After discussion Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to sign the Budget Instructions Letter as presented. Motion carried.**

In conclusion the Commissioners reiterated their authorization for the County to contract with the County's financial advisor, H. C. Wainwright and Co. to do a Debt Affordability analysis.

**Introduction of Assistant to the Director of Finance**

Mr. Welkos introduced to the Commissioners Jeannett Cudmore, the new Assistant to the Director of Finance.

5. Information Release – Proclaiming October 31, 1998 as Halloween

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to approve the distribution of the Information Release as presented. Motion carried.**

6. St. Mary's County Memorial Library – Expansion of Services in Lexington Park Area [Community Surveys; Requests for Interest; and Information Release]  
(Referenced documents will set in motion the collection of information in order to develop the wants and needs of the community for a library in the Lexington Park area. The Request for Interest will be used by the Office of Capital Projects to seek potential sites to be considered for the expanded public library services, and that lease and lease/purchase agreements would be considered.)

7. Calendar Year 1999 Holiday List

**Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve the Calendar Year 1999 Holiday Schedule as presented. Motion carried.**

8. St. Mary's Nursing Center  
Client Agreement between The S & H Group, LLC and the St. Mary's Nursing Center

**Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Client Agreement as presented. Motion carried.**

9. United States Census Complete Count Program – Participation Response

**Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Participation Response as presented. Motion carried.**

**RECOGNITION OF OYSTER SHUCKING CHAMPION**

Present: Wayne Copsey, Oyster Shucking Champion

The Commissioners presented a Commendation and a sweatshirt to Mr. Copsey in recognition of his winning the Oyster Shucking Contest at the St. Mary's County Oyster Festival.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

The Commissioners presented the following Proclamations

- Designating November as National Hospice Month.
- Designating October 26 – 30, 1998 as Developmental Disabilities Month

**METROPOLITAN COMMISSION  
ANNUAL REPORT**

Present: Larry Petty, Director, MetCom  
Steve King, Deputy Director  
Bill Derby, Chair  
Elizabeth Woodard

The referenced representatives appeared before the Board to present the Metropolitan Commission's Annual Report for Calendar Year 1997. The report included significant activities

(Compton Area Sewer Extension, which was undertaken as a self-help effort by the neighborhood and resulted in a cost savings of \$223,178; Pine Hill Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Upgrade; Pine Hill Run Flow Equalization Pond; Disaster Management Plan; St. Clements Shores WWTP; Sewer Use/Pre-Treatment Regulation; and Customer Relations Survey); Plans for the Current Year (Route 235/Hollywood Town Center Sewer and Water Project; St. Clements Shores WWTP Upgrade; Wicomico Shores Water and Sewer Projects Phase II and III); Problems and Challenges (Development of comprehensive GIS/GPS system; continued automation; management of shared septic systems; widening of Route 235; Total Maximum Daily Loadings (TMDL's); and Wood Treatment Plant Site). The report also included the following charts: Revenue and Expenses Comparisons; Customer Billings vs. Staff Hires; Growth of Customer Billing; and Customer Survey data.

During discussion Mr. Petty referred to the TMDL's and its impact on development in the community and also showed a video capturing an individual illegally dumping waste in a septic system, and the video helped lead to a conviction.

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

**PUBLIC HEARING  
HOMESTEAD TAX CREDIT PERCENTAGE**

Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance

The Commissioners conducted a public hearing on the setting of the Homestead Tax Credit Percentage for St. Mary's County Property Taxes. Mr. Welkos explained that State law requires that counties annually set and report to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation their homestead credit percentage by November 15. If it is not reported, the tax credit percentage would remain at the current rate. The credit percentage is effective for the tax year beginning the following July 1.

St. Mary's County maintained the 10% limit for five years and in FY 1997 reduced the percentage to 5%, which has been maintained since that time.

Action needed is for the Board to enact the homestead property tax credit percentage for the tax year beginning July 1, 1999 (FY 2000).

Mr. Ritchie stated that the Commissioners needed to take into consideration the effect on the taxpayers, stating that if the tax credit remained the same, there will still be an increase in taxes.

Hearing no other comments from the audience, the public hearing was closed. The record will remain open for ten days for written comment.

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS (DISCUSSION/DECISION)**

Present: Jon Grimm, Director, DPZ

As a follow up to the September 29, 1998 public hearing, Mr. Grimm presented the following Ordinances:

- Ordinance No. Z98- 5 –Amending the Zoning Ordinance to add subsection 10.9.2 as follows:

**SECTION 10.9 PROHIBITED USES**

2. Private detention centers and private juvenile detention facilities are prohibited within all zoning districts.
- Ordinance No. Z98-6 –Amending the Zoning Ordinance to add the following language:
    - (1) *to section 58.3.2.c(1)* may be displayed thirty (30) days in advance of the event advertised including signs displayed on barns, trucks, trailers and similar

structures and vehicles; and shall be removed within fifteen (15) days after the event.

- (2) *and to Section 80.2* DEFINITIONS, the following sentence at the end of the existing definition:

SIGN, PORTABLE – Public service and special event signs as described in Section 58.3.2 are excluded from this definition.

**Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and sign Resolution Nos. Z98-5 and Z98-6 as presented and referenced above. Motion carried.**

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

##### Lighting at Wildewood Parkway and Route 4

Commissioner Chesser referred to his request for installation of a street light at Wildewood Parkway and Route 4. An agreement with SMECO regarding the light will be submitted to the Commissioners at a later date for the Board's approval.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION PERSONNEL

**Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to meet in executive session to discuss a matter of Personnel (Boards, Committees, Commissions), as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1. Motion carried.**

##### Executive Session – Personnel

Present: Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President  
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman  
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Mortimer L. Smedley, Assistant County Administrator  
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a) 1  
Time Held: 3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Action Taken: The Commissioners reviewed the current status sheet and gave direction to staff.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Minutes approved by the  
Board of County Commissioners on 11/03/98

*Judith A. Spalding*  
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder