

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
November 17, 1998**

Present: Commissioner President Barbara R. Thompson
Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
John J. Kachmar Jr., County Administrator
Mortimer L. 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 Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, November 10, 1998, as corrected. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

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

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to accept the agenda as amended (to add an executive session on reclassifications). Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Correspondence to:

1. James E. Kuss concerning local cable company charges.
2. Cecile B. vonGoetz relative to property concerns.
3. Stuart M. Lynch concerning Oakville Elementary School improvements.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Letter #2 to Cecile vonGoetz. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jarboe stated that he wanted to revise the letter to Ms. vonGoetz to add that "in a four to one vote, with Commissioner Jarboe voting against" granted the final award of growth allocation.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve Letter No. 2 as revised. Motion carried.

(Later in the meeting the amended letter was presented and signed by the Board.)

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Present: John J. Kachmar Jr., County Administrator

- Draft Agenda – November 24, 1998
- Calendar of Events

1. Grant Application
 - a. Office on Aging
Senior Health Insurance Counseling
(State Funding - \$6,000)

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

2. Department of Public Works
 - a. Claim letter for Entrance Permit issued to Quade Brothers, Inc. located off Long Road, 4th Election District; letter of credit in the amount of \$1,500 has been provided by the First National Bank of St. Mary's.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Claim Letter 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.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Update on Sod for Hollywood Elementary School

Commissioner Brugman requested an update on the sod for Hollywood Elementary School. Mr. Kachmar advised that the contract has been let and work will be started within the next 15 days depending on the condition of the soil.

Update on Courthouse

Commissioner Thompson requested that the Board be given an update on the progress of the courthouse project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe to meet in Executive Session to discuss a matter of Personnel (Reclassifications – Central Services), as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1. Motion carried.

Executive Session – Personnel (Reclassifications – Central Services)

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
Mortimer L. Smedley, Assistant County Administrator
Jim Haley, Manager, Central Services
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a) 1
Time Held: 1:20 p.m. – 1:28 p.m.

Action Taken: The County Commissioners reviewed a reclassification request from the Office of Central Services and agreed to take action in open session.

Follow Up to Executive Session

Personnel (Central Services)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to authorize an upgrade for the two dispatchers from Grade 2 to Grade 5 and from Grade 8 to Grade 9 for the Assistant Transportation Supervisor, which had been authorized in the FY '99 Budget and are funded through grant dollars. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to make these grade changes retroactive to July 1, 1998. Motion carried.

**CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSURANCE TRUST**

Commissioner Chesser, as a member of the LGIT Trustees presented Joe Suchinsky with a Certificate of Appreciation received from the Local Government Insurance Trust.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman to meet in Executive Session to discuss a matter of Personnel (Reclassification– Sheriff's Department), as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1. Motion carried.

Executive Session – Personnel (Reclassifications – Sheriff's Department)

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
Mortimer L. Smedley, Assistant County Administrator
Sheriff Richard Voorhaar
"Mac" McClintock, Director, DHR (arrived at 1:50 p.m.)
Judith A Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a) 1
Time Held: 1:32 p.m. – 1:59 p.m.

Action Taken: The County Commissioners reviewed a reclassification request from the Sheriff's Office and agreed to take action in open session.

Follow Up to Executive Session

Personnel (Sheriff's Office)

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve the increase of the Captain's position, in the Office of the Sheriff, from Grade 15, Step 7, to Grade 16, Step 8. Motion carried.

COMMISSION FOR DISABLED

Present: Cynthia Brown, Chair
Dennis Nicholson, Member
Thomas Price, interested citizen
Kevin Detwiler, "

The referenced individuals appeared before the Board to present the Commission for Disabled's Annual Report for 1997. The report included the group's purpose, significant activities (enhanced ADA Resource Library in Office of Community Services; sponsored logo

program in local high schools; served as resource to community regarding ADA issues; established a rapport with the Able/Disabled Club; established working relationships with DPW and Central Services); problems and challenges (need for balanced membership and funding issues relative to accessibility upgrades); plans for the current year (to gain more support and participation from the disabled community; to be more pro-active regarding community awareness; to continue to work with Central Services to make the most effective use of funds for ADA accommodations in local government).

Discussion included observations by handicapped individuals included (restroom difficulties—reaching toilet paper dispenser and reaching soap dispenser; heavy doors; lips on handicap ramps; and accessibility at county parks)

In closing Commissioner Eagan suggested that someone from the Commission for Disabled should serve on Recreation and Parks Board in order to provide input on accommodations for the handicapped.

**U. S. POSTAL SERVICE
POSTAL FACILITIES UPGRADE IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY**

Present: Joe O'Connor, Real Estate Specialist
Keith Kendrick, Facilities Specialist
Bob Williams, Environmental Specialist
Elihu Hirsch, Project Manager

The referenced representatives of the U. S. Postal Service appeared before the Board to advise the Commissioners of plans for expansion or relocation of postal facilities in Clements, Drayden, Morganza, and Loveville. The first option is to expand the existing facility; however, if this is not feasible, the Postal Service will consider relocating the facility to another building or construct a new building.

In addition Mr. O'Connor indicated that the U.S. Postal Service would like to schedule one public meeting for all four facilities. The date for the meeting is Wednesday, December 9, 1998 at the Carter State Office Building, Public Meeting Room, at 7 p.m.

EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM CONTRACT REVIEW

Present: Jim Haley, Manager, Office of Central Services
Representatives of the Negotiating Team
Representatives from MCI Systemhouse

Mr. Haley appeared before the Board to review the completed contract documents between the County and MCI relative to a new emergency radio system. He stated that the document was put together and reviewed to assure that it met the requirements as directed by the Board on September 22. The Department of Law reviewed the contract and agreed that it met legal sufficiency, and the Director of Finance reviewed the financial aspects of the document and agreed with the payment schedule.

During his presentation Mr. Haley noted that the contract price with MCI has been reduced from \$10.8M to \$10.4M as a result of further negotiations which resulted in MCI agreeing to pay for the financing of the radio equipment over the five-year lease purchase; refinements of the contract; however, the \$400,000 will be held for any contingency that may arise.

Areas of discussion by the Commissioners included number of portable radios and pagers; use of specific brand names which does not allow for flexibility; reference in the contract to county commissioners and elected officials not being allowed to benefit from the contract; however, there was no mention of "appointed officials;" number of towers; process of getting frequency and the MHz amount (800); and the possibility of co-locating a frequency with Baltimore County).

After discussion Commissioner Eagan stated that she felt the procurement process was not flawed as alleged, and therefore moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to direct staff to sign the contract with MCI which was presented to the Commissioners. Motion carried three to two with Commissioners Thompson and Chesser voting against.

Commissioner Thompson stated she voted against the motion because she did not believe that the contract should indicate a specific vendor because it was not in the March 1998 solution that a specific vendor was to supply radios. Commissioner Chesser voted against the motion because he did not agree with the process that had been followed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 11/24/98

Judith A. Spalding
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder