

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
May 11, 1999**

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Mortimer L. Smedley, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the check register, as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, May 4, 1999 as corrected. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Mortimer L. Smedley, County Administrator

- Draft Agendas for May 18, 1999 and May 25, 1999
- 1. Budget Amendments
 - a. No. 99-35 – St. Mary's Public Schools (\$182,877)
(to cover funds required for White Marsh Elementary School Media Center Expansion Project contract award)

Also Present: Brad Clements, Supervisor of Facilities and Construction

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve Budget Amendment No. 99-35. Motion failed for lack of a second.

After discussion regarding priorities; public perception regarding funding provided to the Board of Education (as well as the accumulative effect); that the base level contract was over budget in addition to the alternatives, the Commissioners agreed to defer action until next week in order to allow more time for review of the request.

(Commissioner Randall left the meeting at 10:50 a.m. to give a speech at the RSVP Luncheon at the St. Mary's Technical Center.)

- b. No. 99-36 – Office of Central Services (\$13,025)
(to cover personnel expenses for new Buyer position)

Also present: Jim Haley, Manager, Office of Central Services

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-36. Motion carried.

2. Grant Documents

- a. Office of Capital Projects
St. Mary's County Airport
Amendment No. 1 to FAA Grant Agreement (increase of \$5,840.27)

Also Present: Jim Stirling, Director, Office of Capital Projects

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Grant Amendment. Motion carried.

- b. Office of the Sheriff -- Application
COPS Universal Hiring Grant Application (two deputies)
1st year federal funding - \$50,721 (\$70,730 local funding for uniforms, vehicles, communications equipment, etc.)

Also present: Sheriff Voorhaar
Lt. Rusty Malone

After discussion regarding officers in the schools; change in priorities for the Sheriff's Department; that road patrol coverage will be maintained; success of the COPS program; and flexibility of the officers at the Temporary Courthouse (some of which could be used for road patrol), Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Application as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Raley noted for the record that he would not be in support of any additional deputy positions during budgetary deliberations.

Commissioner Anderson noted that the HotSpots Program has improved crime control in Lexington Park.

3. Public Works Documents

Also present: George Erichsen, Director, DPW

- a) Public Works Agreement Addendum for Willowbrook Subdivision, Sixth Election District, extending completion date to April 1, 2000; letter of credit provided by First National Bank of St. Mary's in the amount of \$328,800.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Public Works Agreement Addendum as presented. Motion carried.

- b) Ordinances (follow up to 4/20/99 public hearings)

- 1) for the Upgrade Realignment and Renaming of existing private road known as *Cheryl Lee Lane* to a public county road *Colby Drive*

(Discussion included the fact that the Browns will have access and there will be no costs to them for the access; and further that the Ordinance was revised to indicate it was the applicant making the request for the upgrade and realignment.)

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve and sign Ordinance No. 99-05 as presented. Motion carried.

- 2) for the abandonment of a portion of *Camp Brown Road* for 310 feet westerly of the intersection with Md. Route 5 to the end of the paved road.

During discussion Commissioner Raley suggested that the applicant be requested to cost share in the turn around.

After discussion Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and sign Ordinance No. 99-06, as presented. Motion carried three to one with Commissioner Raley voting against.

- 4 Employment Contract
 Assistant County Attorney

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Employment Contract for Patrick Murphy, Assistant County Attorney. Motion carried.

5. Information Release
 Disposal of empty plastic pesticide containers
 (July 12, August 5, and September 8)

The Commissioners read the Information Release and agreed to authorize its release.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners presented the following Proclamations:

- National Nurses' Week
- National Nursing Home Week
- Historic Preservation Month/Week

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ESTABLISHMENT OF AWARD PROGRAM

Present: Audrey Pratt, HPC
 Leonard Kohl, "
 Mary Hayden
 Kirk Ranzetta, Historic Preservation Sites Surveyor

The referenced individuals appeared before the Board to explain the establishment of the St. Mary's County First Annual Historic Preservation Awards Program. The Program, which is modeled after Calvert County's, would be administered by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and would consist of two award categories (a project award and a service award). Awards would be made in May of each year with a Proclamation from the Board of County Commissioners.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed for the HPC to move forward and to work with the Public Information Officer on this Program.

(Commissioner Randall returned to the meeting at 11:45 a.m.)

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to meet in Executive Session to discuss matters of Personnel and Property Acquisition, as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1 and 11, respectively. Motion carried.

Property Acquisition

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Mortimer Smedley, County Administrator
Jim Stirling, Director, OCP
George Erichsen, Director, DPW
Judith Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11

Time Held: 12:27 p.m. – 12:42 p.m.

Action Taken: Staff updated the Commissioners regarding a property acquisition issue and the Commissioners gave direction to staff.

Personnel

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Mortimer Smedley, County Administrator
Judith Spalding, Recorder (attended from 2:01 – 3:05 p.m.)

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1

Time Held: 12:42 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.

(continued 4:20: p.m. – 4:55 p.m.)

Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed a number of personnel issues (vacant positions).

**INTRODUCTION OF COUNTY ATTORNEY/
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY**

The Commissioners introduced Al Lacer, the new County Attorney, to the public; in turn Mr. Lacer introduced Patrick Murphy, the new Assistant County Attorney.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

June 1, 1999 Commissioners' Meeting

Commissioner Guazzo advised that there are five Tuesdays in June, and suggested that the Board cancel the June 1 meeting, which follows the Memorial Day Holiday. (the public forum will continue to be held on the second Tuesday, June 8.)

Revitalization of Mobile Home Parks

Commissioner Raley advised that he met with representative of Pascal Turner, the firm that is manager of some of the mobile home parks in the Eighth Election District. There are plans for a major facelift for two of the parks, Southern Maryland and Suburban Mobile Park, and there were concerns about the disposal of the old mobile home units (landfill won't take them and fire department will not burn them). The Commissioners directed that Pascal Turner work with the County Administrator and Director of Public Works to find a proper channel for disposal of these units.

Reduction in Workers' Compensation Loss Rate

Commissioner Raley referred to correspondence from Insured Workers' Fund indicating that the County's loss rate has significantly decreased since Mary O'Brien, the County's Risk Manager, has been on board.

Visit from Governor Glendening

Commissioner Anderson advised that Governor Glendening will be visiting the County on Friday: (1) to be at Chopticon High School at 1:30 p.m. to make a school construction announcement; (2) and 3:30 p.m. at Route 235 and Route 4 for the formal ground breaking for the Route 235 widening project.

Workforce Development

Commissioner Anderson advised that correspondence has been received from Governor's Work Force Investment Board requesting a response whether the tri-County wanted to proceed with the local work force board in the future. He indicated that he will keep the Commissioners posted on this issue.

Tobacco Settlement Funds

Commissioner Anderson advised that the Tri-County Council discussed the tobacco settlement issue. A committee of people from Calvert, Charles, Mary's, Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties has been put together to make recommendations on how to proceed. Steps are being taken to investigate participation in an agricultural incubator program.

St. Mary's College Activities

Commissioner Anderson informed the Board of various activities at St. Mary's College: (1) Presentation of *Slack Water* publication, which takes an oral history on a particular topic (e.g., Patuxent River) and is placed in a book; (2) History of Park Hall is available for public view at Kent Hall.

RSVP Lunch

Commissioner Randall stated she attended the RSVP Program at the Technical Center. RSVP volunteers have given over 240 hours of volunteer service to the County, and based on those hours, we would have paid over \$200,000 in salaries.

TELEPHONE BOOK RECYCLING AWARDS

Present: Jack Curran, Solid Waste Coordinator

The Commissioners presented Telephone Book Recycling Awards

- * Institutional Achievement Award – Patuxent River Naval Air Station
Environmental Support Group
- * Group Achievement Award – Hollywood Elementary School
Recycling Club
- * Individual Achievement Award – Ryan J. Albertsen, Great Mills

Property Acquisition

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Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Mortimer Smedley, County Administrator
Al Lacer, County Attorney
Judith Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11

Time Held: 4:56 p.m. – 5:55 p.m.

Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed a property acquisition issue and gave direction to staff.

Appointment
Wicomico River Commission

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to appoint Walter A. Saunders to the Wicomico River Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2001. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

The Board of County Commissioners conducted the monthly public forum. Questions/comments from the audience included:

Response to Telephone Call from March Public Forum

Inquiry regarding "for sale" signs being placed on *Stop Signs* and not on the actual property that is for sale. (Issue will be submitted to Planning and Zoning to be addressed.)

Elfreda Mathis – Referred to proposed revisions to the Lexington Park/Tulagi Place Master Plan submitted by the Tulagi Place Focus Group. One of the recommendations was the appointment of an administrator to implement the Plan.; recommended putting the library across from the newly renovated Lexington Park Elementary School. (The Commissioners advised that Community Development Corporation will be coming before the Board on 5/25 to discuss the need for an administrator; the library will be a topic of discussion at the June 8 public forum.)

Clare Whitbeck – Recommended that the Commissioners conduct an impact fee study and give consideration to raising the fee. (Commissioner Randall indicated that a comprehensive revenue study should be done on all revenues (fees, taxes, etc.)

Mary Bailey – Announced the upcoming First Annual *March for Parks* on Sunday, May 23, 1 – 3 p.m. at the Governmental Center. Proceeds from the walk will be used to improve handicap access to the facilities at Dorsey Park on Hollywood Road.

Leonard Greess – Referred to an issue from 1993 regarding nonconforming signs, which were to come into compliance in accordance with an amortization schedule which, was to be developed in 1993. The schedule has not been done to date. (The Commissioners responded that the sign ordinance will be addressed during the Unified Development Code update.); inquired whether impact fee study would be included in budget (Commissioners would like a comprehensive study of all revenues); inquired when a response to the letter submitted by the focus group will be sent; (a response will be prepared)

Jack Witten – Expressed concern regarding letter from Jones Cable about transfer of franchise to Comcast, in that the letter had been "floating around" for 14 months and had recently resurfaced. He suggested that the County work on getting integrity in its correspondence system.

Bill Bartlett – Suggested that if the Commissioners wanted to do something to be remembered by they should do something for Lexington Park, that a library is the building block of a community and location of the library in Lexington Park should be considered.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 5/18/99
Judith A. Spalding
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder