

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
May 16, 2000**

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator
Kate Mauck, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to accept the agenda as amended (to add a Proclamation for United States Power Squadrons Day). Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign the Check Register. Motion carried.

AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION PUBLIC HEARINGS

Present: Donna Sasscer, Agricultural Seafood Specialist

The Commissioners conducted a public hearing on the following applications for the establishment of Agricultural Land Preservation Districts and Sale of Development Rights Easement:

ALPD #00-150-0000-1 – Paige E. Johnson for a total of 101.11 acres located on Buck Briscoe Road, Tax Map 39, Block 17, Parcel 3.

ALPD #00-150-0000-11 – Wayne F. Goddard for a total of 110 acres on Route 249, Tall Timbers, Tax Map 61, Block 22, Parcel 74.

ALPD #00-150-0000-16 – Francis Dean for a total of 68.4 acres on Bushwood Road, Tax Map 30, Grid 22, Parcel 137.

ALPD #00-150-0000-17 – James M. Hayden for a total of 38 acres on Oscar Hayden Road, Tax Map 38, Grid 15, Parcel 159.

ALPD #00-150-0000-18 – Milton Rose for a total of 29 acres on Beitzell Road, Tax Map 38, Grid 14, Parcel 24.

Three other ALPD's were scheduled to be heard at this meeting, but were postponed due to typographical errors in the legal notice.

Commissioner President Julie Randall opened the floor for public comment, and the following individuals spoke:

Gary Reynolds – Asked to see a final revision of the Reserve site plan. Mr. Paige Johnson then produced the final plat of the area and details of the plat were discussed.

Leslie Demans – Had questions about the roadways leading back to her property – would the State later allow paving of the roads? Also wanted to know if additional users would be allowed on the roads once the State accepts the program. Ms. Sasscer stated that the State would probably not allow additional dwellings to utilize the roadways, although additional family members moving into an existing approved home would certainly be allowed. Mr. Johnson stated that he had already asked the State about potential paving issues and the State told him that there should be no problem with paving the existing roads at a later date.

Ms. Sasscer addressed some concerns of the property owners and she also stated that the State would be helping to resolve any further issues in this complicated process. The total number of homes allowed on the Reserve will be limited to fourteen.

Commissioner President Randall closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the referenced ALPD applications as presented. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Board of County Commissioners presented the following Proclamations:

- **National Historic Preservation Week and Statewide Preservation Month**
- **Historic Preservation Project Award**
- **Historic Preservation Service Award**
- **Emergency Services Week**
- **United States Power Squadrons Day**

(Eleanor Abell took the following portion of the meeting)

FISCAL YEAR 2001 BUDGET WORK SESSION (PUBLIC SCHOOLS/BOARD OF EDUCATION)

Present: Michael Hewitt, Member, Board of Education
John Parlett, Member, Board of Education
Steven Kracinovich, Member, Board of Education
Mary Washington, Member, Board of Education
Joanie Farrar, Member, Board of Education
Patricia Richardson, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Randall opened the budget work session meeting at 11:07 a.m.

An overview of the relationship between the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education was discussed with emphasis on a team approach to education.

Board of County Commissioner FY01 budget goals were discussed as follows:

- **Financial Stability** - A review of budget revenues and expenses versus budget increases was explained emphasizing the challenges the county has faced.
 - Use of Fund Balance in FY00 and FY01
 - Multi-Year Budgeting and Forecasting; debt affordability and total compensation study performed by Sam Ketterman
- **Pay Parity**
- **Debt Reduction**
 - Board of Education Capital Projects

Budget process improvements were discussed in relationship to:

- **Board of Education participation in multi-year budgeting and forecasting.**
 - Potential agreement for revenue percentages for Board of Education

- Capital budget timeline
- Board of Education Suggestions

A brief overhead presentation was delivered by Patricia Richardson which provided data relative to MSPP report, performance assessment and class size. An informational binder was passed to Commissioners on school improvement plans.

Commissioner Randall suggested a realignment of the budget process so that the Board of Education provides its budget to Finance earlier with target date of September instead of February. Commissioner Mattingly suggested the Board of Education set priorities on line items for the budget figure of \$3.1 Million and added the importance of categorizing goals and dollars for inclusion in the final published document. Commissioner Guazzo requested copies of the Maryland School Performance Program Report in addition to the 1998-1999 MSDE Fact Book. Commissioner Randall suggested the Board of Education meet with the Commissioners again in July to develop an agreement relative to performance and financial indicators and measurements.

The Board of County Commissioners dismissed for lunch at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

(Kate Mauck took the following portion of the meeting)

**PUBLIC HEARINGS (DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY)
OFFICE OF CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Present: Jim Stirling, Director, Office of Capital Projects

**1) Captain Walter Frances Duke Airport
Land Swap of 6 acres to facilitate relocation of the Naval Air Museum**

Mr. Stirling stated that the Notice of Public Hearing had been properly advertised on April 26th and May 3rd, 2000. He provided background information about the land swap, stating that the land will be used as a negotiating tool in order to go toward part of the \$2 million which the Board of County Commissioners will be contributing toward the Navy Museum Project. A drawing of the property was presented and Mr. Stirling provided information about the property, which was valued at \$311,000.

Commissioner President Randall opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment and the floor was closed. Commissioner Randall announced that the record would be held open for written public comment for a period of 10 days. After the 10-day period, the item will be placed on the Board of County Commissioner's agenda for a final decision.

**2) Community College at St. Mary's
Transfer to the College of Southern Maryland**

Mr. Stirling stated that the Notice of Public Hearing had been properly advertised on April 26th and May 3rd, 2000. He provided background information about the transfer of two parcels of land, 37.491 and 23.24 acres, from the Board of County Commissioners, currently operating as the Community College at St. Mary's, to the College of Southern Maryland. A final deed on the properties will be brought back to the Board of County Commissioners prior to July 1, 2000. Mr. Stirling showed illustrations of the land and stated that the property will eventually have a roadway that will connect it to the St. Mary's County Governmental Center.

Commissioner President Randall opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment and the floor was closed. Commissioner Randall announced that the record would be held open for written public comment for a period of 10 days. After the 10-day period, the item will be placed on the Board of County Commissioner's agenda for a final decision.

Mr. Stirling stated that he would check with the County Attorney's office to ensure that no problem exists with the Notice of Public Hearing having placed a comma instead of a period in the acreage listed in the advertisement (37,491 instead of 37.491 acres).

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agendas for May 23 and May 30th
2. **Grant Document**
Office of Community Services
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Neighborhood Crime and Substance Abuse Prevention Grant
(Federal Funding \$4,963; no local funds required)

Present: Walter Biscoe, Office of Community Services
Mary Sanchez, VISTA
Connie Porter, VISTA
Linda Jones, VISTA
Kelsey Bush, VISTA

Mr. Biscoe answered questions from the Board of County Commissioners concerning the grant. He stated that the materials purchased would not become County property, but would be signed out and owned by the community agencies that will be using them.

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

3. **Budget Amendment No. 2000-46**
Board of Education - \$365,935
(and accompanying Resolution Authorizing Use of Public Facilities Bonds)
(To fund modifications required to consolidate office space at Moakley Street and modifications to Loveville office complex.)

Present: Jeannett Cudmore, Acting Director of Finance
Brad Clements, Director of Facilities, Buildings and Maintenance

Ms. Cudmore and Mr. Clements provided information concerning the Budget Amendment, stating that the funds would be partially used to renovate the bottom floor of the building on Moakley Street, while the remainder would be used toward the Loveville projects as outlined.

Commissioner President Randall asked that Mr. Clements convey to Dr. Richardson her concern for the Special Education Department to be moved to the Moakley Street location. She had asked about this issue in the past and had not received a response. She would like to have a written record of the final determination of which agencies will move into the Moakley Street location when the decision-making process has been completed.

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Budget Amendment and to approve and sign Resolution Nos. 2000- and 2000- authorizing the use of Public Facilities Bonds of 1997 and 1999. Motion carried.

(Eleanor Abell took the following portion of the meeting)

4. **Office of Capital Projects**
(Standard SMECO Easement Agreement for electric service for the new Courthouse)

Present: James S. Stirling, Director of Capital Projects

Commissioner Mattingly motioned to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the agreement. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. No discussion followed and the motion carried.

5. **Grant Document**
Department of Economic and Community Development
Maryland Commission for Celebration 2000
Millenium Grant 2000
(State Funding \$40,000 (Tri-County) no local funds required)

Present: Jean Goodman, Tourism Development Coordinator

Jean Goodman briefly explained the grant with regard to historic preservation efforts of the department and answered questions from the Board of County Commissioners concerning the funding structure matching by neighboring Charles and Calvert Counties.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commission Guazzo, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the grant application. No discussion followed and the motion carried.

6. **Department of Human Resources**
(Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield Renewal for FY2001)

Present: Melvin McClintock, Human Resources Director
Dee Kramer, Benefits Coordinator

Mac McClintock and Dee Kramer presented information on the Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan renewal options for FY2001 and answered questions from the Commissioners regarding the differences between the options.

Commissioner Raley moved to adopt Option II and to reinstate the monthly call of 5%. Commissioner Guazzo seconded the motion. No discussion followed and the motion carried.

FISCAL YEAR 2001 BUDGET WORK SESSION **(Sheriff's Department)**

Present: Richard J. Voorhaar, Sheriff
Steven M. Doolan, Lieutenant, Criminal Investigation Division

Ms. Randall opened the budget work session meeting at 2:25 p.m.

An overview of the relationship between the Board of County Commissioners and the Sheriff's Department was discussed with emphasis on a team approach to public safety.

Board of County Commissioner FY01 budget goals were discussed as follows:

- Financial Stability - A review of budget revenues and expenses versus budget increases was explained emphasizing the challenges the county has faced.
 - Use of Fund Balance in FY00 and FY01
 - Multi-Year Budgeting and Forecasting; debt affordability and total compensation study performed by Sam Ketterman
- Pay Parity for Sworn Officers
- Debt Reduction

Budget process improvements were discussed in relationship to the above three items.

Sheriff's Department's budget concerns were discussed as follows.

- Unfilled Positions
- Future Budget Requests for Positions
- Overtime

Commissioner Mattingly suggested that the Sheriff's Department look at the overtime policy more closely in relationship to overtime figures. Commissioner Randall asked for data regarding the old versus new temporary courthouse costs for the past few years, including projections. Contract services were discussed and a request was made to review the areas of court security and the detention center regarding overtime costs. Commissioner Raley expressed concern regarding implementing efforts for a more cooperative relationship with the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Guazzo suggested that better communications with the Sheriff and/or deputies would be a goal to help alleviate some of the perceived misunderstandings.

Open Discussion:

Public Hearings

Discussion took place regarding property taxes, real estate taxes, constant yield, transfer taxes, and income taxes and the advertisement of public hearings for action on rates. It was noted that real estate taxes and constant rate were looked at by the County Attorney. County Attorney's office was directed to handle advertisements.

Singer Group Study Minimums

County Administrator and Human Resources provided information regarding the status of minimums being moved to July 1, 2000 for the Singer Group Study. The study was based on a proposed new pay scale for January implementation. The move-up date caused an accelerated pay scale issue. To implement the 2.5% increase to include the minimums caused pay inequities due to current steps in the scale. Commissioner Randall recommended changing the pay scale first to remove the increments and put employees where they belong, adjusting the pay parity due to the 1.5% project rate of January 1, 2001. October 1, 2000 date was given to establish the new pay scale. Commissioner Randall wanted to take time to study it and come up with a proposal.

Budget

A work session was scheduled for next Thursday, May 18, 2000 from 4-6:00 p.m. for addressing capital budget changes and review of information from the May 15th Work Session.

Finance Department was directed by the Board of County Commissioners to make the capital budget changes and have a new total for debt service FY01, 02, and 03 based on the new capital plan available for the Thursday, May 18th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 5/30/00

Kate Mauck
Kate Mauck, Recorder

Eleanor Abell
Eleanor Abell, Recorder