

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
Tuesday, October 2, 2001**

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
Judith A. Spalding, Administrative Assistant to BOCC (Recorder)
Kate Mauck, Administrative Assistant (Recorder)

Kate Mauck recorded the following meeting minutes:

**COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND
LEXINGTON PARK TRAINING CENTER RIBBON CUTTING**

The Commissioners attended the referenced Lexington Park Training Center Ribbon Cutting ceremony.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign the Check Register; however, Commissioner Raley requested that payment be withheld on two checks until clarification is made (page 21 – \$2,000 to the Greater Washington Initiative and page 96 – \$1,080 to a consultant for work on Nicolet Park.) Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, September 18, 2001, as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Thursday, September 20, 2001, as corrected. Motion carried.

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, September 25, 2001, as corrected. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Staff was directed to change the letter in today's Consent Agenda that was written to Secretary Porcari to add the following item: Route 5 from Leonardtown to Great Mills.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agenda – October 9 and October 16, 2001

Staff was directed to place on an upcoming agenda a briefing regarding the status of the 911 Contract, to include the communication towers and implementation procedures. Staff was also asked to ensure a briefing regarding the cable franchise situation was placed on an upcoming agenda. Commissioner President Randall stated that it was indeed, already on an upcoming draft agenda. Discussion took place regarding the potential change of time from afternoon to morning on an executive session item to better accommodate staff members who need to be present.

2. Health Department
Transfer of Surplus Fleet Vehicles from Public Works Transportation Division to the Health Department

Present: Dr. Icenhower, Health Officer
George Erichsen, Director, DPW&T
George Jarboe, Director, Transportation Department

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize the transfer of the two vehicles to the Health Department. Motion carried.

3. St. Mary's County Public Schools
Program Development Grant – Request to Include in FY2001 Budget
(MSDE: \$29,300)

Present: Rhodessa Millham, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo to approve and authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign letter. Motion carried.

4. Sheriff's Department
Grant Application/State Aid Police Protection Fund Report (State: \$821,911)

Present: Sheriff Voorhaar
Carlotta Bell, Fiscal Specialist

Sheriff Voorhaar pointed out that this is an annual grant given by the State; however, \$821,911 is a projected and not the final amount to be received.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign. Motion carried.

5. Risk Management
Budget Amendment #2002-4 - Adjustment for Security (\$27,525)

Present: Mary O'Brien, Risk Manager

It was reported that the budget adjustment would provide for enhanced security in and around the Governmental Center building/complex during regular working hours as well as when evening meetings occurred. This funding would provide for the presence of a security officer for four or five months. The issue will be revisited after that time.

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign the budget amendment. Motion carried.

Commissioners commended Ms. O'Brien for her efforts in the area of risk management on behalf of St. Mary's County. Commissioner Guazzo reported that Commissioners received a letter from the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) awarding St. Mary's County for its excellence in risk management.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

John G. Lancaster Park at Willows Road Grand Opening Ceremony

Commissioner President Randall thanked staff for the excellent opening ceremony that occurred last Saturday at the John G. Lancaster Park at Willows Road. She reported that the family of Mr. Lancaster was very pleased, and she gave special words of thanks to Mr. Lacer, Mr. Rollins and the Public Information Office.

Commissioner Anderson reported that people on the street were continuing to tell him what a nice time and event the opening ceremony was. He stated that it was a great way to honor a very fine gentleman.

Commissioner Raley stated that the ceremony was a wonderful tribute to Mr. Lancaster. He urged citizens to visit the park and to see what a great facility it is. There are a lot of green open spaces and a football game was going on while the ceremony was happening. Commissioner Randall pointed out that a couple of individuals were playing basketball as well – not necessarily a team sport. Commissioner Anderson reported that the park was being heavily used right from the start.

Retirement Ceremony for State Fire Marshall

Commissioner Mattingly reported that he attended, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, the retirement ceremony for Rocco Gabriele, State Fire Marshall, this past Friday. In his new position, Mr. Gabriele will be managing and overseeing the organization that deals with weapons of mass destruction, which has now taken on a whole new meaning. Mr. Gabriele was very appreciative of Commissioner Mattingly's presence at the event, and assured Commissioner Mattingly that he would assist St. Mary's County in any way he could in the future.

Blessing of the Fleet

Commissioner Anderson reminded the viewing audience that the annual Blessing of the Fleet would occur this coming Saturday. The Seventh District Optimist Club sponsors the Blessing of the Fleet and it is a great community event. He encouraged citizens to attend.

College of Southern Maryland Small Business Development Center

Commissioner Anderson reported that all the Commissioners attended this morning the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the new facility of the Southern Maryland Small Business Development Center in Lexington Park. The training center was opened as a major workforce development initiative. He stated that this was a tremendous event, and it is very significant as movement occurs regarding the revitalization of Lexington Park.

Eagle Scout Ceremony for Armando Hernandez

Commissioner Anderson reported that he attended a ceremony to honor Armando Hernandez upon the occasion of his becoming an Eagle Scout. Armando is a senior at Great Mills High School, and Commissioner Anderson stated that only 4% of scouts ever reach the rank of Eagle Scout. Armando is to be commended for all his efforts, and Commissioner Anderson stated that it is rewarding for people to see that these types of individuals will become our future leaders.

Book Signing by Stephen Peters

Commissioner Anderson reported that he attended a book signing that was given by Stephen Peters last Saturday. All proceeds from the event were to go to the Ladies and Gentlemen's Clubs of St. Mary's County. Bonnie Elward, Executive Director of Tomorrow's Child sponsored the event, and she was instrumental in getting the Ladies and Gentlemen's Clubs started and established in our school system. It was a very nice event, and Commissioner Anderson commended all those involved in putting it together.

Performing Arts Program in St. Mary's County

Commissioner Guazzo stated that the County has an excellent Performing Arts Program that is sponsored by the Women's Club of St. Mary's. She outlined four musical programs – two in October, one in December, and another in early January. Individual tickets are \$20 and a ticket to cover the entire series is \$50. The Women's Club does not receive any funding from County Government – they acquire their own grants and funding, and they serve the County well by providing arts and entertainment. They are to be commended for the excellent job they do. *Commissioner Guazzo requested that the information regarding the upcoming events be placed on Cable Channel 12.*

Corn Mazes in St. Mary's County

Commissioner Guazzo stated that there are now two corn maze establishments in the northern end of the County – one at the Wood family farm in Mechanicsville and another at the Bowles family farm in the Loveville/Clements area. Citizens were encouraged to visit the farms for some family fun and entertainment, and the mazes should be open to the public until the end of October.

Happy Birthday to Mrs. Anita Dorman

Commissioner Guazzo wished a very happy birthday to Mrs. Anita Dorman, who worked for Dr. and Commissioner Guazzo for sixteen years. Mr. Dorman also worked for the County for perhaps twenty years or more, and he was instrumental in setting up the Technical Center and the vocational training that occurs there. Commissioner Guazzo indicated that now the County is not only providing training, but as it relates to the opening of the Lexington Park Training Center opening this morning, the County is teaching people how to run businesses and how to stay in business. Mr. and Mrs. Dorman were thanked for all their contributions to St. Mary's County. The auditorium in the new Technical Center is being named after Mr. Dorman.

Church of the Ascension

Commissioner Raley reported that the Church of the Ascension on Great Mills Road would be holding their annual pig roast this Saturday. Some delicious chicken from Raley's would also be provided at the event. The public was encouraged to attend.

Red Cross Money Raised by Meagan and Karen Raley

Commissioner Raley announced that Meagan and Karen Raley, of Ridge, were present in the audience and had raised a significant amount of money to go toward the local chapter of the Red Cross. They raised \$1,219 by selling 450 buttons they made. Mr. Duschene of the Red Cross was present to receive the donation and the girls were commended for their outstanding efforts in leadership. They were each presented with a certificate of appreciation for all their hard work.

In addition, Ms. Ann Raley announced that a second contribution was being made by Lettie Dent Elementary School in the amount of \$2,375 to go toward providing assistance at the Pentagon. Mr. Duschene outlined ways the Red Cross is helping out at the Pentagon.

Commissioner Raley stated that out of every tragedy, sometimes good things happen. During the St. Mary's County Fair, over \$8,000 was donated by citizens to the Red Cross. He also reported that blood drives have reported a surge of people donating blood.

Public Forum in Northern End of County

Commissioner Guazzo stated that citizens in the Northern end of the County have been asking her to hold a public information meeting. In response to that request, she will be conducting a meeting, along with County officials and Department Heads, to occur on Wednesday, October 17th at Lettie Dent Elementary School from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Information will be provided to citizens regarding the identified needs of services and facilities in that part of the County that are on the Comprehensive and various Master Plans. There will be plenty of time to have staff reports and to handle questions, answers and comments for those present. Commissioner Guazzo will be announcing this meeting for the next two upcoming Commissioner meetings in order to disseminate the information to the public. Commissioner Randall reported that the same evening, Commissioners would be attending the Navy Alliance Dinner, with Governor Glendening as the guest of honor.

Calendar Conflict

Commissioner Mattingly asked Commissioners to check their calendars regarding a conflict of meeting dates/times for the Tri-County Council Executive meeting and the Legislative meeting in November. The Public Information office is to work with Commissioners in order to determine whether a change in meeting dates/times might occur.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DECEASED EMPLOYEE BETTY SUE ABELL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Board of County Commissioners, along with County Administrator Alfred A. Lacer; Director of Public Works, George Erichsen; and Supervisor of Transportation, George Jarboe, unveiled a plaque in the hallway in the memory of deceased St. Mary's County employee Betty Sue Abell. Members of Ms. Abell's family were present for the unveiling and words of encouragement were expressed by county staff.

CHAPTICO PARK MASTER PLAN

Present: Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation and Parks
Charles Klein, Whitney, Bailey, Cox and Magnani
Sam Crozier, Crozier and Associates

Mr. Rollins presented the Board of County Commissioners with a revision of the draft Chaptico Park Master Plan. A draft plan had been presented to Commissioners in July of 2001, and direction was given by Commissioners to significantly reduce the funding request for the project as well as the reworking of several other items. The major issues and summary of changes presented were as follows:

- Funding request reduced from \$8.7 million to \$4.99 million;
- Reduction in costs due to deferment of paving roads and parking areas, elimination of irrigation for soccer complex, baseball and football field deferment, reduction of number of tennis courts, reduced water-supplied restroom facilities;
- Diverse and inclusive recreational opportunities;
- Equestrian facilities;
- Recreational pond as well as functional use for stormwater management;
- Cost and need for multiple restrooms and septic systems;
- Additional picnic areas;
- Spending plan/priorities;
- Need for additional basketball courts;
- Plantings for buffering;
- Public Works' workload does not permit them to assist with project at this point;
- Plan of Action and milestones were presented; and
- Future program elements were outlined and discussed.

Mr. Rollins also outlined the following initial program elements:

- Soccer complex - \$2,626,000
- Equestrian complex - \$615,000
- Additional recreation and picnic - \$649,000
- Pond and lawn - \$1,104,000
- Total Initial Program Cost: \$4,994,000

The Board of County Commissioners commended Recreation and Parks and the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board for their efforts on revising the draft plan for Chaptico Park. Discussion occurred regarding the need for a teen center in the northern end of the County, a BMX track, and liability for the active pond, and the potential use of funds if the 20% contingency fee was not utilized. The following goals were suggested for future program elements:

- *To add additional restroom facilities and make sure there is an appropriate notation on the document regarding this issue;*
- *Ensure pond is entitled as "recreational" pond under initial program elements;*
- *Try to expand playground to be similar to boundless playground at the John G. Lancaster Park at Willows Road;*
- *Try to accommodate tennis courts into one location;*
- *Try to determine a way to schedule lacrosse/football field into an earlier phase if possible – consider using a flex field or softball field in order to accommodate; and*
- *Look at the property to see if there might be other areas where additional ponds might be placed.*

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve the Chaptico Park Master Plan with the requested changes. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION/
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS & INSPECTION
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE PROCESS/PROCEDURES**

Present: George Erichsen, Director, Director, Public Works & Transportation
Robin Guyther, Director, Permits and Inspections

Mr. Erichsen and Mr. Guyther outlined the July 1st implementation procedures for the newly adopted Stormwater Management Ordinance procedures. Items discussed were as follows:

- In-house training completed;
- Coordination with County Administrator occurred;
- No response as yet on any recommendations from Development Review Forum;
- Have followed specific transitional guidelines as laid out;
- Ultimate goal is to have Permits and Inspections review submissions of single lot stormwater management plans;
- An in-depth discussion regarding the processing of plans took place;
- Average length of time for plots, plans and building permits was outlined;
- No significant public comments came out of the 60-day public comment period that ended on September 17th;
- New guidelines from MDE will be given to the County in the future – these will be incorporated;
- MDE has been asked to provide training sessions – they will provide these later;
- Exemption by many builders/businesses in the regulations;
- Quick & easy technique manual anticipated from the State; as it has not arrived yet, Mr. Erichsen will provide Mr. Guyther with the document when received;
- Approximately 40 meetings with individuals have occurred regarding their specific needs/issues; and
- Smaller firms have had difficulty because they have been unable to send representatives to the training sessions.

Commissioner Guazzo questioned whether First Colony is exempt from stormwater management requirements as discussed and requested that Mr. Erichsen look carefully at the approved conditions of the Ordinance to determine whether or not they are truly exempt.

The Board of County Commissioners commended Mr. Erichsen and Mr. Guyther for the relatively smooth transition and the amount of time they have spent in the implementation of the new procedures regarding Stormwater Management.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to meet in Executive Session to discuss matters of Litigation, as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8, respectively. Motion carried.

Judith Spalding recorded the remaining meeting minutes:

Litigation

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
Patrick Murphy, County Attorney
George Forrest, Deputy County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8

Time Held: 3:15 p.m. – 4:28 p.m.

Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed a matter of litigation and gave direction to staff.

ZONING ORDINANCE WORK SESSION

Present: Jon R. Grimm, Director, DPZ
John B. Norris, III, Deputy County Attorney
George Erichsen, Director, DPW
Herb Redmond, Chair Development Review Forum

Chapter 10 – Title, Purpose and Organization

Acceptable as revised

Chapter 31 – Zoning Districts

Page 31-1 - Line 36 – question as to how this would impact large farms moving grains, etc. Mr. Grimm indicated that this was covered under #3 and was not an issue.

Page 31-2 – Line 33 – Mr. Grimm to determine whether the words “single-family” should be deleted under VMX.

Chapter 44 – AICUZ and Airport Environs

Page 44-1 – Line 15 – delete the word “private”.

Page 44-6 – Line 39 – Delete the word “BY”.

Page 44-15 – Replace lines 30 and 31 with the deleted lines 25, 26, and 27.

Page 44.15 – On line 39 delete the word “certain”; on line 40 insert the words “required to file as set forth below” after the word “development” and on line 43, insert the words “county department responsible for Airport Master Plan”

Chapter 82.10.24 – Private Roads and Chapter 82.11 – Driveways

Mr. Redmond advised that the Development Review Forum recommended the following introductory statement: “The purpose of private road standards is to provide an option to retain rural character, reduce costs to serve a limited number of large rural lots, and to allow more control, security and sense of identity when public roads are not needed for public circulation.”

The Commissioners accepted this recommendation for inclusion in Chapter 82 on Page 82-12, Line 47.

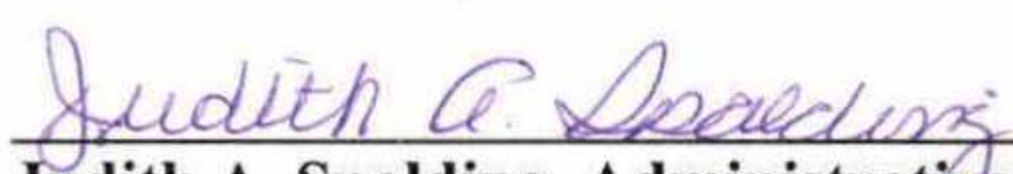
Mr. Erichsen highlighted his recommended amendments to Chapter 82 and the Commissioners directed that he work with Mr. Norris and Mr. Grimm to incorporate the changes into text format.

In addition the Commissioners agreed that reference should be made to MDE and Soil Conservation regulations rather than including the requirements in the Zoning Ordinance text.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on _____**



**Judith A. Spalding, Administrative Assistant
to the Board of County Commissioners**