

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
Tuesday August 6, 2002**

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
Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to BOCC (Recorder)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday July 30, 2002. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agendas: August 20 and August 27, 2002 (*no meeting on August 13*)

Commissioner President Randall noted that a press release will be issued extending the public comment period until September 27, 2002, for the Critical Area Growth Allocation request for Clearbrook Farms project. The Commissioners will make a site visit to the property on September 24. Growth Allocation requests for Colton and Mossey Lea, Bohanan, and Prospect Hill projects will be on the Commissioners' agenda for decision on August 20, 2002:

2. Grant Agreements

- a. Office on Aging

- (i.) Approve and Sign Grant Award (\$193,810) for FY 03 State Grants and Budget Amendment (\$860) (*Gene Carter, Director; Jennie Page, Deputy Director; Peggy Maio, Fiscal Supervisor*)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the grant award and budget amendment for FY03. Motion carried.

- (ii.) Approve and sign renewal of Md. Dept. of Ed. Child and Adult Care Food Agreement for Medical Adult Day Services and Senior Center Plus programs (\$40,888) (*Gene Carter, Jane Kostenko, Outreach Specialist*)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the renewal agreements for Medical Adult Day Services and Senior Plus programs. Motion carried.

Commissioner Anderson entered the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

- b. Office of Community Services (*Cynthia Brown, Director; Walt Biscoe, Vista Supervisor*)
Approve and sign amendment of MOU with Corp. for National and Community Service and OCS Summer Associate Cost Share Program

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the amendment of MOU for the Cost Share Program. Motion carried.

3. Facilities Management (*Janet Parks, Property Manager*)
Approve and sign SMECO Easement for electric service to the Lexington Park Library

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the SMECO easement to the Lexington Park Library. Motion carried.

4. Planning and Zoning (*Jon Grimm, Director*)
Discussion and direction regarding scheduling of Zoning Ordinance Public Hearing

It was recommended that a work session be conducted on August 20 to review potential amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances, including a map review.

5. Health Department (*Dr. Icenhower, Ann Rose*)
Approve and sign FY03 Contractual Memorandum of Agreement with MDE for supplemental monitoring of sewage sludge activities by Health Dept and approve Budget Amendment (\$20,526) and

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the FY03 MOA with MDE and to approve the budget amendment. Motion carried.

Approve and sign MOA between SMC Health Dept. and SMC re monitoring of land application of sewage sludge. Dr. Icenhower also presented the FY02 Sludge Report. 2001 highlights included:

- 37,000 wet tons of sewage sludge were applied in SMC
- 20,000 wet tons came from out of state
- 16,000 wet tons came from within the state
- 2,500 wet tons came from SMC
- From 1/00 to 6/00 MDE conducted 17 inspections in 30 months
- In the six months SMC has had this program, 124 inspections were conducted
- SMC leads the state with the highest number of wet tons of sludge applied

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the MOA with the Health Department. Motion carried.

LEXINGTON MANOR: STATUS OF ILLEGAL DUMPING

Present: Dr. Icenhower, Department of Health
Robin Guyther, Director, Permits and Inspections

The Commissioners expressed their continuing concern regarding illegal dumping of trash in Lexington Manor. Dr. Icenhower reported that illegal dumping is a county-wide problem. While there are State laws prohibiting dumping, the enforcement process is very slow and often ineffective. Dr. Icenhower recommended that local ordinances be adopted to enable SMC to enforce illegal dumping laws in a more timely and effective manner. Robin Guyther, Director of Permits and Inspections, added that the establishment of a \$5-10,000 revolving fund would allow SMC to clean up dumped trash that is not removed in a timely manner by the owner. The property owner would then be billed by the County for the trash removal.

The Commissioners directed staff to: (1) consult with other counties to gather data on the effectiveness of their local ordinances and results of enforcement practices; (2) draft an ordinance for review by the Commissioners in early September that would prohibit the dumping of trash and provide an effective enforcement process for timely clean-up; and (3) seek funding from MDE to assist with clean-up activities.

SENIOR COALITION: SENIOR SUMMIT PRESENTATION

Present: Edward J. Bergin, SMC Senior Coalition
Gene Carter, Office on Aging

The SMC Coalition is an umbrella organization of senior groups. Its mission is to work together to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community with particular emphasis on those issues that impact seniors. The purpose of the Senior Summit, held November 16, 2001, was to prepare St. Mary's County for the impact of the projected doubling of the senior population during the next 15-20 years. Mr. Bergin reviewed the Summit's activities and outcomes. Next steps include: holding issue-specific follow up sessions, seeking grant or foundation funding to support follow-up efforts, sponsoring a plenary follow-up conference; and holding a candidate's forum during each election cycle that focuses on senior issues.

The Commissioners departed to visit the Oakley Senior Center.

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Commissioners presented a proclamation for National Night Out to Lt. Tim Cameron, and DFC Joseph Sommerville, Sheriff's Department. August 6, is the 19th National Night Out which promotes cooperative police, community, crime, and drug prevention programs.

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE BRIEFING

Present: Korey Smith, President Airport Advisory Committee
Ned Clark, Committee Member
Joseph Mitchell, Committee Member
John Savich, Director, DECD
George Erichsen, Director DPW&T

The AAC was established by the Board of Commissioners in September 2001 and held its first organizational meeting in February 2002. Since that time, significant progress has been made. The Committee reviewed its accomplishments in the areas of business development (including consideration of the economic benefits to the community), safety and security; operations, and the establishment of long-term goals. Next steps include the development of a business plan, conducting airport inspections, improving IFR capabilities, and presenting an airport layout plan for review and approval by the Board of County Commissioners. It is important that the Airport Manager position be advertised as soon as possible.

The Commissioners commended the AAC for their progress and achievements to date.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Commissioner Guazzo

- Was delighted to attend Captain Hovatter's change of command. Fortunately he'll remain on the base in another capacity and stay in St. Mary's County.
- Enjoyed the Hollywood Carnival on August 3.

Commissioner Raley

- Congratulations to Commissioner Mattingly who was appointed by the Governor to the Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation Task Force.
- The Ridge Carnival begins August 8 and will run for two week-ends.
- We have a beautiful and diverse county and we are fortunate to live here.
- Congratulations to Minnie Russell, a 1st district citizen activist, and her husband Martin who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

Commissioner Anderson

- Had a few calls regarding mosquitoes and concerns about the West Nile Virus. The Health Department advised that SMC has been under a Code Red climatic condition which prevents regular spraying. Hopefully, the weather will change soon to allow spraying once again.

Commissioner Mattingly

- Attended the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance and The Patuxent River Partnership reception on July 31. The partnership hosted a delegation from the Australian Defense Industry.
- The Tri County Commissioners' meeting was held in Benedict. The three counties enjoyed sharing their thoughts and ideas.
- Please attend the Ridge Carnival – it's the last of the season.
- A meeting will be held on the trail project at the Mechanicsville VFD on August 14. Please stop by and participate.

Commissioner Randall

- From the Tri County Commissioner's meeting, several items of interest were brought to the Board's attention. An expansion of Angels Watch homeless shelter was discussed. The three counties discussed the possibility of establishing a group of Board selected appointees to conduct a feasibility study on the needs of the homeless. Options include expansion of the regional shelter, building additional facilities, or both. *George Forrest was asked to contact Charles County to find out if they are going to produce a charter for the group.*
- Happy 20th Birthday to Mary Randall on August 8th.

LEXINGTON MANOR: Enforcement of the Livability Code

Present: Robin Guyther, Director, Permits and Inspections

Mr. Guyther reported that Adam Knight, Deputy Code Official, has been working with the Health Department and the property owner of Lexington Manor on a new Plan of Action for Lexington Manor. Permanent repairs have not taken place due to the limited and temporary moratorium on the issuance of zoning and building permits in the AICUZ. Building permits are not required for ordinary repairs; however there are several buildings which may require structure members to be repaired. These would require a zoning/building permit to be issued. Only temporary repairs have been completed.

The trash and debris on E. Rennell Avenue was removed on August 2; however, approximately 20 trash bags of household garbage was dumped over the weekend within 100 yards of the cleaned area. The Sheriff's Department has been notified of the illegal dumping. Boarding up of vacant buildings is continuing; however, as the plywood is often removed after it has been put up, alternative solutions are being sought.


The Commissioners reiterated that enforcement of the livability code is a major concern and directed staff to remain on top of the situation. The Department of Permits and Inspections will present a new plan of action to the County Administrator who will continue to ensure an integrated departmental approach toward the effective enforcement of the livability code at Lexington Manor and throughout the county. It was acknowledged that there is currently one qualified inspector on staff.

The Commissioners agreed that Permits and Inspection staff should submit a status report on the enforcement of the Livability Code every two weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 8/20/02**



**Donna M. Gebicke, Administrative Assistant
to the Board of County Commissioners**