

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
Tuesday October 1, 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 10:07 a.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to accept the agenda as amended. 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, September 24, 2002, as corrected. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners presented a proclamation declaring October as National Breast and Cervical Cancer Awareness Month and October 18 as National Mammography Day to Mary Novotny, Dr. Icenhower, Diana McKinney, Karen Yates, Mary Hansley, Alma Jordan, from the Health Department, and Tammy Gaido, the St. Mary's Hospital Coordinator, There will be 4,100 Maryland women diagnosed with breast cancer this year and 800 of them will expire from the disease. Mortality could be reduced by 30% if women followed recommended screening guidelines.

Karen Yates informed the Commissioners that Women's Wellness of St. Mary's is a partnership between the Health Department and St. Mary's Hospital. When financial eligibility is met, women between 40-64 years of age may receive breast exams, mammography, and pap smears on a regular basis. Women who are interested in this service may call 301-475-4391 for further information.

A proclamation was presented declaring the month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" to Gwen Bankins, Coordinator of St. Mary's Family Violence Coordinating Council; Kathy Dassing, Sheriff's Office; Robin Falsey, Legal Coordinator for the Women's Center; Gary Lynch, Clinical Director. Violence affects over 3.3 million children who witness violence in their homes each year. In Maryland, a family member is killed every five (5) days as a result of domestic violence. Assistance is available through the Family Violence Coordinating Council because each family deserves to have access to assessment and treatment services. If services are needed, please contact Gwen Bankins at 240-895-7082.

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL: INVITATION TO SOUTHERN MARYLAND FARM LIFE FESTIVAL

Present: Mary Ann Chasen, Al Potts, Phil Scriber, Kathy Slagle,
Bob & Vera Houston

John & Kitty Parlett have hosted the Maryland Farm Life Festival for five years. Please plan to attend this wonderful celebration of the history of farming. The event will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 12, and 13th. All proceeds are donated to Christmas in April.

Applications for Assistance through Christmas in April are available now and the deadline has been extended to October 11, 2002.

WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE

Present: Dr. Icenhower, Health Officer
Mary Novotny, Department of Health

There are now two dead "positive" crows and one which is suspect. One individual from SMC is diagnosed with West Nile Virus. The individual had surgery recently and is being treated at Johns Hopkins. It is unknown where actual contact was made, however, the areas where the dead crows were found and where the victim lived will be sprayed and mosquito traps have been installed by the Department of Agriculture. The Public Information Office will keep the public informed about this important issue.

Citizens are reminded to clean out gutters, birdbaths, eliminate standing water containers, and to cover the body adequately and use repellants with 30% Deet as protection at dawn and dusk.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agendas: October 8 and October 15, 2002
2. Grant Agreements

Dept. of Planning and Zoning (*Jon Grimm & Teresa Wilson*)
Sign Preservation Incentives for Local Government (PILG) Grant
Agreement (\$25,000 PILG Grant in FY03 Budget; \$17,000 cash
Match; \$8,000 in-kind)

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the grant agreement. Motion carried.

3. Budget Amendments

Facilities Management/Building Services Division (*Richard Rohrbaugh*)
Sign Budget Amendment (\$15,400) transferring funds from salary accounts for 3 positions budgeted for full year that are currently vacant to the overtime account in order to carry out dehumidification project in County Office Building.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the budget amendment to transfer funds accordingly. Motion carried.

4. St. Mary's County Fire Chief/SMC Fire Board (*Joseph Andrew Bell, STMC Fire Chief*)
Sign Mutual Aid Agreement between SMC and PG County Fire and Rescue

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the mutual aid agreement. Motion carried.

5. Memorandum of Agreement

Recreation and Parks (*Phil Rollins, Linda Springrose, Janet Parks*)
Sign MOA between Board of Ed and BOCC for shared use of Great Mills High School parking lot and Great Mills Swimming Pool parking area

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the MOA. Motion carried.

6. Facilities Dept. (*Janet Parks, John Norris*)

- a. Authorize staff to advertise and hold a public hearing for the disposition of the former Page property

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve advertising a public hearing and asks for staff input and public comment on the development rights associated with the property. Motion carried.

Commissioner Randall requested staff provide the Board with the tax assessment records on this property.

- b. K-Mart and Wal-Mart connector road update (*Janet Parks*)
An agreement regarding the connector road has not yet been reached with the three property owners involved. Laurel Glen has requested a change in the agreement which is in negotiation. Maryland Manor is in negotiation with Wal-Mart and is unable to sign an agreement at this time. Wal-Mart has not responded.

Commissioner Raley stated that the Board's decision to fund the connector road was not unanimous. If the property owners do not want to act on this matter, then the County Commissioners can put their focus and funding elsewhere. Time is running out.

7. DECD (*Dennis Nicholson, John Savich, John Norris*)
Sign Local Federal Housing Bond Allocation letter transferring St. Mary's County allocation into the State bond pool for FY 2002.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the allocation letter. Motion carried.

8. SMC Public Schools (*Dr. Richardson, Bradley Clements, Dan Carney, Kimberly Howe*)
Sign a resolution indicating concurrence with the State Capital Improvements Plan for FY04-09

Dr. Richardson presented their State Capital Improvements Plan for FY04-09 for the Board's concurrence. Overall, modifications include:

- the state square foot formula increase has been adjusted for facilities needs related to implementing all-day kindergarten
- six kindergarten additions plus expanding G. W. Carver Elementary School project from 375 to 535 capacity
- the additional capacity will address all-day kindergarten in the Lexington Park development district area
- this program has not been adjusted to address Adequate Public Facilities (APF) needs

Dr. Richardson mentioned that the Navy may be interested in acquiring the existing Carver Elementary school which would return funds to the County. *Commissioner Randall recommended SMCPs contact Senator Mikulski to seek assistance in finding funds to move children out of the AICUZ.*

Ultimately, adjustments are critical for Adequate Public Facilities and need to be incorporated into the planning process. *Commissioner Randall requested that the Director of Planning & Zoning forward information to Brad Clements, SMCPs, regarding all construction approvals, including those from the Town of Leonardtown.*

The SMCPs proposal will need to be balanced to meet the program requirements with the county's ability to provide funding.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and sign the letter to Dr. Stenzler regarding the school system and state's Capital Improvement Program. Motion carried.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Commissioner Anderson attended the Three Oaks annual fundraiser which featured the "Capital Steps" presented at GMHS. It was great fun and the Three Oaks Board is to be commended for a great success.

Several Commissioners attended the first district's Optimist Charter Night in Ridge. Optimists do a tremendous job for our youth.

Commissioners Randall, Mattingly, and myself attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at Cecil's Mill. The Cecil family has brought new life to the area with the only working water wheel in Maryland.

Commissioner Randall stated that Congressman Steny Hoyer has secured within the House bill \$3.4 million for the Navy Museum and Visitor Center although it is not yet in the final budget. It appears SMC can expect to receive between \$1-3.4 million.

The Blessing of the Fleet will be held next Saturday and Sunday. We encourage everyone to attend.

County Administrator and Human Resources Director were asked to present background information to the Board on an upcoming agenda regarding the County's policy on the release of fire and rescue volunteers (who are non-essential county employees) when called out on an emergency so that this policy can be revisited.

Commissioner Guazzo had family visiting last week and was regrettably unable to attend any events in the County.

Commissioner Mattingly attended the College Fair and the Maryland International Raceway (Budd's Creek) fuel eliminator event. Thanks to Mr. Royce Miller, SMC hotels/motels were filled by the 20-25,000 tourists who visit the MIR every season.

The Commissioners are invited to attend the 3-county floating disaster drill on October 12, at the Lexington Park staging area. All rescue services will be participating.

Commissioner Raley mentioned that three of the Commissioners – Anderson, Raley, and Randall - are charter members of the Optimists Club.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Present: Dawn Drew, Deputy Director of HR

New employees introduced themselves to the Commissioners. A total of sixty-two employees have joined St. Mary's County Government since February 5, 2002.

COMMISSION ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2001

Present: Gene Carter, OOA
Commission on Aging Board: Sandra Wheeler, George L'Heureux,
Pat Myers, Clancy Lyall, Mary Ruth Harden, Kitty Turner,
Arlene Cooper, Mary Ann Grushalt, and George Donnelly

Ms. Wheeler covered the successful activities held in 2001 and current concerns. One concern is the lack of a county comprehensive plan to deal with future demographics. More interaction is necessary with the OOA and COA when planning new facilities. There is no funding in place for staffing or transportation for the new Northern Senior Center. The budget for the OOA is worrisome and inadequate permanent staffing and services are still a challenge. Ms. Wheeler thanked the Board on behalf of the COA for the opportunity to serve the community.

The COA members were congratulated on their hard work and for their value to the Board and St. Mary's County. Mr. Carter explained that the senior living apartment complex on Pegg's Road is currently taking applications for residency.

Commissioner Guazzo, with all the Commissioners, would encourage developers to come forward with a good business plan to develop additional senior residential housing. The Board would work with them to develop a tax rebate package or a public/private partnership.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND: SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECOGNITION

Present: Dr. Wesley P. Jordan, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, St. Mary's College of Maryland

Dr. Jordan introduced the following recipients of St. Mary's County Scholarships to attend St. Mary's College of Maryland:

Stephanie Franklin, Chopticon High School
Sara Zylak, Chopticon High School
William Combs, Leonardtown High School
Denise Flanagan, St. Mary's Ryken (unable to attend)

Commissioner Randall returned to the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Commissioner Guazzo was not present for the following portion of the meeting.

TEEN COURT UPDATE

Present: Kelsey Bush, Youth Coordinator, Office Community Services
Daniel A. M. Slade, Esq., Teen Court Committee Chairman
Wendy Povitsky, Americorps Vista

Teen Court's mission is to provide juvenile offenders an opportunity to reflect on their choices and enhance their decision-making skills. The program allows youth and adult volunteers with the opportunity to learn about and contribute to their community. SMC needs a Teen Court due to the increase in juvenile crime due to delinquency, alcohol, and other abuses. All juveniles in SMC are eligible to participate except those living in HotSpots (currently being served by Neighborhood Accountability Board [NAB]). Teen Court has a proven record of success and has partnered with The Honorable Judge Kaminetz, the BOCC, OCS, SMC Sheriff's Office, SMCPS, Department of Juvenile Justice, State's Attorney, UM Coop Extension Program, and Walden Sierra. Commissioner Anderson has been particularly involved in developing this program.

In Charles County, of the 180 cases presented at Teen Court, only 1 teen re-offended. Recruitment of volunteers and mock trials begin in October. In December, cases will be heard in the District Court.

POWER SQUADRON PRESENTATION: UPDATED NOAA CHART

Present: Kay Simkins, Commander, Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron
Hal Willard, Past Commander, Boating Course Chairman

The Power Squadron presented a copy of the updated NOAA nautical chart of the Patuxent River and Solomons Island to the Commissioners. The work was done by volunteers who conducted depth surveys, shoreline, and current surveys, and identified navigational hazards.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to move into Executive Session at 3:08 p.m.

Commissioner Guazzo returned for Executive Session at 3:08 p.m.

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. Motion carried.

Litigation

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
John Norris, County Attorney
Robin Finnacom, Lexington Park Plan
Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator
Donna Gebicke, Recorder

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

Time Held: 3:16-3:40 p.m. and 4:40-5:20 p.m.

Action Taken: Commissioners discussed litigation matters.

**MARYLAND YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL
LOCAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION CEREMONY**

Present: Floraine Applefeld, Director, Maryland's Most Beautiful Program
Cynthia Brown, Director, OCS

The Commissioners thanked the following volunteers for their selfless and compassionate acts of community service that help make St. Mary's County a beautiful place to visit and live.

NOMINEES: Dorothy Bailey, Marguerite Cheseldine, Clinton Duke, Rollin Henry, Robert Houston, Anne Lancaster, Stephen Mattingly, Joyce Powers, Donald Rice, Mary Jane Scully, Howard Thompson, Harold Younger, Lexington Manor Community (Gloria Daniels, and Jimmy Coontz), William Young, Agnes Weeden.

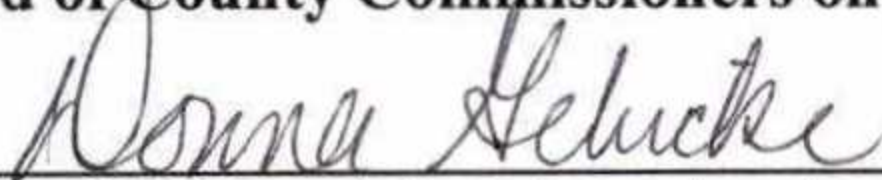
The GRAND WINNER was Harold Younger who has given his time and talent to Special Olympics, performs fire safety and training, has obtained smoke detectors for every Amish family in SMC, is a trained EMT. Mr. Younger also becomes Santa for many organizations each year. A certificate from the Board of County Commissioners, a gift certificate to Target, and a dinner for two at Nooks and Monks Restaurant was presented to Mr. Younger with heartfelt thanks.

Volunteer hours in St. Mary's County exceed any other community in the State. Ms. Applefeld brought congratulations from the Governor and Lt. Governor and gave a special thanks to Cynthia Brown, and the Commissioners, for their cooperation and support over the past 16 years.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 10/8/02



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