

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
Governmental Center  
Tuesday October 8, 2002**

**Present:** Commissioner President Julie B. Randall  
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson  
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.  
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley  
Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator  
Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to BOCC (Recorder)

*Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo was not present at the opening of the meeting.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER**

**Commissioner Raley moved to authorize Commissioner Randall to approve the Check Register with the exception of the Raley's Town & Country Market charges on page 16. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mattingly. Motion carried.**

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to authorize Commissioner President Randall to specifically approve the charges for Raley's Town & Country Market on page 16. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday October 1, 2002, as corrected. Motion carried.**

**PROCLAMATIONS**

**Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Month**

**Present:** Mr. Preston Rose, District 29 Deputy  
Mr. Brian Werring, District Warden  
Mr. Butler

Proclamations were given to eight Knights of Columbus Councils declaring October as Tootsie Roll Month. Mr. Rose reminded the public that all donations accepted during the Tootsie Roll Campaign remain in St. Mary's County benefiting programs for county citizens with special needs.

**Fire Prevention Week – October 6 – 12, 2002**

**Present:** Adam Knight, Permits & Inspections  
Barbara Vallandingham  
Jenks Mattingly  
George Kennett

The theme for 2002 "Team Up For Fire Safety" focuses on installing and testing smoke alarms, developing home escape plans, and hunting for home hazards.

Early warning protection alarms reduce fire casualties by nearly 50%. The public is encouraged to replace smoke alarm batteries on October 27 (day light savings ends). Batteries and alarms are available at no charge from your local fire station. Alarms for hearing impaired citizens are also available at all fire stations.

In October 2001, sixteen people died in Maryland fires. All fire departments have been challenged by the Governor and the Maryland State Fireman's Association President to reduce that toll to zero across the state.

Fire companies will be actively involved in open houses and school activities during the week. On Saturday, October 12, a disaster drill for terrorist attacks will be held on Willows Road in Lexington Park. The public is invited.

*Commissioner Guazzo entered the meeting at 10:34 a.m.*

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agendas for October 15, and 22, 2002
2. Grant Agreements
  - a. Department of Public Works and Transportation (*George Jarboe, Elaine Kramer*)  
Sign inter-governmental agreement with Md. Transit Administration for the 5311 Public Grant for FY 03 (\$254,990) which will assist with cost of operating the County's Public Transit Service.

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the public grant for FY03. Motion carried.**

- b. So. Md. Tri-County Community Action Committee (*Norma Webber, Director, Consumer Assistance Program; Elaine Kramer*)  
Sign updated agreement for Emergency Food Assistance Program administered by the Tri-County Community Action Committee.

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

3. Budget Amendments

Planning and Zoning (Jon Grimm)  
Sign Budget Amendment to transfer funds (\$845.00) to continue American Planning Association Membership requested by Board of Appeals & Planning Commission Members

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

4. Boards and Committee Appointment Letters

<u>Commission on People with Disabilities</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
Pat O'Connor	12/31/06

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the appointment letter for Mr. O'Connor. Motion carried.**

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Commissioner Raley wished a happy birthday to Judy Spalding (retired AA to the BOCC). Part of the wide range of activities this past week was the Blessing of the Fleet, which was a huge success. The Ridge Optimists Club provided assistance with the water taxi service to the island.

The NAACP event honoring Ms. Glasgow was well attended.

Commissioner Mattingly congratulated BAE Systems on their new building. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held October 7. The Technology Corridor signs were uncovered. BAE staff and Bob Waxman spearheaded naming the corridor to reflect the positive changes within our community.

Congratulations to the Chamber of Commerce who continues to arrange successful events almost on a weekly basis. Their annual golf tournament was a great success.

Commissioner Randall congratulated Special Olympics and the Center for Life Enrichment for their great golf tournament.

*Requests the following information:*

- 1. How many employees within County Government, the Sheriff's Department, MetCom, and the Health Department are required to get annual physicals because they are emergency response individuals? What is the process? Do we contract with a particular agency? Are all of our requirements combined for efficiency reasons?*
- 2. Need the same information on the fit test for hazmat masks required by OSHA and MOSHA for these same individuals.*

*We need to add requirements for volunteer fire and rescue to the County requirements hopefully resulting in a good price for the physicals and fit tests.*

## **ST. MARY'S COUNTY FARM BUREAU: RIGHT TO FARM LEGISLATION AND DROUGHT IMPACT**

Present: Bubby Norris, President, St. Mary's County Farm Bureau  
Donna Sasscer, Ag Coordinator, DECD  
John Savich, Director DECD

The Farm Bureau is satisfied with the right-to-farm ordinance and provisions within the zoning ordinance. The draught in SMC is severe – 30" shortfall for two years running. There is a 75% overall crop loss county-wide. There is no disaster provision in the new farm bill and a federal disaster program is pending Congressional approval. An official declaration that SMC is a disaster area must come from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

*Commissioner Randall requested staff send a letter to Delegate Bohanan requesting that he seek information on the status of declaring SMC a disaster area from Congressman Hoyer's office.*

Mr. Bubby Norris asked if SMC could provide the farmers with assistance. Mr. Savich offered to inventory the various possibilities for assistance at state and federal levels and agricultural groups to see if there is a gap the County might fill.

Staff was directed to go forward with research and analysis of what SMC may do to assist farmers and to return to BOCC with this information in the next several weeks.

Mr. Norris was urged to continue pushing for the declaration of disaster.

## **HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION: ANNUAL REPORT**

Present: Marie Underwood, former Chair  
Tyrone Harris, Chair

The Office of Community Services – specifically Cynthia Brown and Georgia Kaspar – have provided outstanding support to the commission. Over the past two years, the Human Relations Commission (HRC) has:

- heard complaints from members of the community about discrimination,
- sponsored an annual breakfast to honor an individual whose laudable work in human relations is celebrated,
- helped launch a community mediation center, and
- kept a finger on the pulse of racial and ethnic relations in the community

There are now written procedures available on how to handle a complaint. John Roberts is the driving force behind the mediation center and will be presenting a brief to the Board in the near future. Nominees for citizens to be honored at the next breakfast are now being accepted for 2003.

The current commission is short two members and nominees (clergy and legal) are being actively sought. Activities coming up in 2003 include Betty Quinn on the Hispanic insight, Salt & Pepper, Black History Month, youth feedback on discrimination, and Mary Lu Bucci will discuss citizens with disabilities. Minority achievement gaps will be addressed in February 2003.

## **LIVABILITY CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Present: Robin Guyther, Director, Permits and Inspections  
Adam Knight, Code Official

There is a public information meeting on the new Livability Code scheduled on November 7, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the Loffler Center.

### Lexington Manor

Of the 342 buildings, 100 are occupied and 40 are secured against vandalism leaving 202 buildings needing attention. Of the 40 secured building, 50% have been re-vandalized.

The Club Properties maintenance staff will board up doors, windows will be covered with orange blaze fencing, broken windows 8" and below will be covered with wire mesh and orange blaze fencing. There is a compliance date set for Club Properties to complete this work by October 18, on South Coral Drive. The final work is scheduled from completion by February 2003.

A number of occupied buildings need new roofs. John Norris, County Attorney, indicated that the agreement to extend the moratorium on building permits excludes the issuance of building permits for roofs when there are livability code requirements. Permits can be issued to repair the roofs.

*Commissioner Anderson requested a schedule be prepared for the Board indicating when repair/replacement of the roofs will occur.*

## **ST. MARY'S COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: OPERATION OF TOURIST AND VISITOR CENTER**

Present: Vince Whittles, President  
Bill Scarafia, Executive Director  
John Savich, Director, DECD

Over the past several months, the Chamber has reshaped operational efficiency by updating the by-laws, reviewing organizational structure, and completing a financial

analysis. The Chamber serves as SMC's primary visitor/tourist information center. This has become a financial liability to the Chamber. The hours of operation for the Center will be cut back in order to reduce operational costs.

DECD will work with the Chamber to develop an MOU that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Chamber and SMC regarding the Tourist and Visitor's Center and will look at models in other counties to develop a range of options for funding for this partnership activity.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

**Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to enter into executive session at 2:25 p.m. Motion carried.**

#### **Personnel**

**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  
Randall Schultz, Director, HR  
Donna Gebicke, Recorder

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

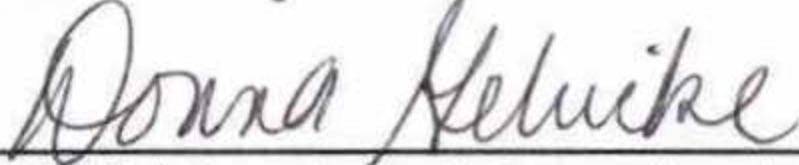
**Time Held:** 2:44-3:20 p.m.

**Action Taken:** Commissioners discussed personnel issues and gave direction to staff.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by the  
Board of County Commissioners on 10/15/02**

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