

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF June 6, 2005

St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Room 14

Members Present: George Baroniak, Vice Chair
Joseph B. Bush, Member
Zora M. Siemasko, Member
Susan J. Wolfe, Executive Secretary

Members Absent: David S. Deaderick, Chair
Arthur F. Goeller, Member
Viola M. Gardner, Alternate Member

Others Present: Jason Babcock, The Enterprise

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Baroniak at 2:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Messrs. Deaderick and Goeller and Ms. Gardner were unable to attend the meeting.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:

Minutes of May 16, 2005. A motion was made by Mr. Bush to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:

FDS Status: 238 FDS statements for calendar year 2004 were sent. Nine statements remain outstanding. This week, certified letters were sent to those individuals who have not submitted their reports; the letters will request that statements be submitted no later than June 20, 2005. After that date, cease and desist letters will be prepared and forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners for review. 219 statements have been reviewed by Ethics Commission members.

Review Session: Twelve statements were reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Members discussed a June 2 telephone call received from Tom Tucker, Washington Gas Light, who asked whether county commissioners could receive two free tickets each to concert events at the Calvert Marine Museum. The next concert was to be held on June 5. Due to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, the Ethics Commission could not meet to discuss this request before the June 5 event. Therefore, on June 5, in consultation with the commission vice chairman, the Assistant County Attorney provided advice from her office to Mr. Tucker that the commissioners would not be in violation of the county ethics ordinance if they accepted the offered tickets. Members agreed with the advice from the Assistant County Attorney. They further agreed to prepare a memorandum to the file regarding this request and its resultant action. Mr. Baroniak will prepare that memorandum for commission review.

Mrs. Wolfe reported that the position of county Human Resources Director was filled. Ms. Susan Sabo begins work in mid-June and a 2004 Financial Disclosure Statement will be sent to her.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Siemasko moved to adjourn at 3:02 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.