

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2004

St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Rm. 14

Members Present: M. Martha Neal, Ph.D., Chair

David Deaderick, Vice Chair

George Baroniak, Member

Viola Gardner, Member

Shirley Baldwin, Executive Secretary

Members Absent: Zora Siemasko, Member

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Neal at 2:04 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Shirley Baldwin advised she will not be present at the Aug. 2 meeting; however, coverage will be provided by the BOCC office.

Mr. Deaderick advised at the July 19 meeting Mr. Norris will meet with the Ethics Commission to discuss revision of the Ethics Ordinance.

Dr. Neal added an item to today's agenda under New Business regarding an invoice received from Chen, Walsh, Tecler & McCabe.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:

Minutes of June 21, 2004. The motion was made by Mr. Baroniak and seconded by Mr. Deaderick to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Status of 2003 Outstanding. There are still six members who have not filed. Dr. Neal updated the Commission on progress she has made in making phone calls and the responses received. If any additional responses are received, she will advise Mr. Deaderick.

Review Session: One Financial Disclosure Statement was reviewed and approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Calendar Year 2003 Annual Report All members of the Ethics Commission have now signed the Annual Report and it

will be distributed and sent to the Webmaster for placement on the Ethics Commission website.

Membership: Dr. Neal reported she had spoken with Mr. Forrest regarding the Ethics Commission's membership needs. Mr. Deaderick reported that there have been two appointments made, one member and one alternate, both of whom have accepted their appointments. Even while Dr. Neal leaves the Commission for family reasons, the Commission will have a full complement of members: five plus an alternate. The new members will be seated once the Commission has approved their Financial Disclosure Statements.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Chair. Mr. Baroniak nominated Mr. Deaderick to serve as Chair. With no further nominations, a vote was taken, with two voting aye, and one abstention. Mr. Deaderick was duly elected Chair.

Election of Vice Chair Mr. Deaderick nominated Mr. Baroniak to serve as Vice Chair. With no further nominations, a vote was taken, with two voting aye, and one abstention. Mr. Baroniak was duly elected Vice Chair.

The role of Chair was then turned over to Mr. Deaderick.

Invoice received from Chen, Walsh, Tecler & McCabe, L.L.P. A final invoice was received in connection with a recent investigation, total amount being \$8,264.31. The motion was made by Mr. Baroniak that this be approved, and seconded by Ms. Gardner. The motion carried.

Education Presentation Mr. Deaderick announced that he made an agreement to make a presentation regarding the Ethics Commission to the Democratic Club of St. Mary's County. He invited members of the Ethics Commission to be present at Nicoletti's Pizza at 7:00 p.m. on July 20th.

Thanks to the Chair Dr. Neal was thanked for her generous service to the Ethics Commission, especially while serving as Chair, during which time the Commission had improved the Financial Disclosure Statement form (making it available online), reduced FDS non-compliance, put materials on the county Web site, developed and marketed an educational program, and made additional key advancements in Commission policies and procedures, especially through Advisory Opinions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Gardner moved to adjourn at 2:29 p.m., seconded by Mr. Baroniak. Motion carried.