

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2004**

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

**Members Present: David Deaderick, Chair**

**George Baroniak, Vice Chair**

**Joseph B. Bush, Member**

**Viola Gardner, Member**

**Zora Siemasko, Member**

**Arthur F. Goeller, Alternate Member**

**Shirley Baldwin, Executive Secretary**

**Heidi Dudderar, Assistant County Attorney**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2004.

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:**

**Minutes of August 2, 2004.** One grammatical change was suggested as well as corrections to spelling of names. The motion was made by Ms. Gardner and seconded by Mr. Bush to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried.

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

**FDS Status:** There are four who have not filed; one from the original list, and three from appointments to the Economic Development Council appointed July, 2004. One FDS is pending awaiting the Statement to be notarized. Mr. Deaderick will contact Mr. Savich regarding filing by the new EDC members.

**Review Session:** Two Financial Disclosure Statements were reviewed and approved,

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Revisions to Ethics Ordinance:** All changes to the Ethics Ordinance have been approved with the exception of Section 9 – Enforcement. Item C reads "The Commission may issue an order that any administrative decision derived from a violation of this Ordinance be vacated, remanded to be conducted in accordance with this Ordinance or such other relief ordered as appropriate and necessary to remedy a violation of this Ordinance." Ms. Dudderar reported she had spoken with Mr. Robert Hahn, Counsel for the State Ethics

Commission, who recommended against this language as there is a requirement that the local ethics ordinances be similar to the State Ethics Ordinance. Since the State has not given the State Ethics Commission that authority, it would be dissimilar to what the State has done. Ms. Dudderar, having reviewed ethics ordinances from other jurisdictions, suggested language setting forth what the Commission may do; such as, "issue a cease and desist order, seek enforcement in the Court and impose fines for any violation of the provisions of this Ordinance." There is a possibility Section C and Section A can be combined to include both a person as well as a body or board. The Ethics Commission requested that Ms. Dudderar draft language to that effect to be brought back to the next meeting.

Updated Roster: An updated roster of Ethics Commission members was distributed.

Recognition of Dr. Neal's Service: On motion by Ms. Siemasko, seconded by Mr. Baroniak, the Commission voted to present a framed copy of the St. Mary's County seal with appropriate inscription to Dr. Neal in recognition of her service to the Ethics Commission.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**