

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**  
**St. Mary's County Potomac Building**

**Minutes of September 21, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joseph B. Bush, Chair  
Robert W. Denning, Vice Chair  
Arthur F. Goeller, Member  
Robert E. Elwood, Member  
Elizabeth Long, Member  
Candace Butler, Alternate Member  
Sarah Cannavo, Administrative Support

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bush at 2:02 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on October 5, 2009 in conference room 14 of the Potomac Building.

Mr. Goeller will be unable to attend the next two meetings (October 5 and 19).

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes for Open Session of August 17, 2009: Mr. Elwood made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Mr. Denning and carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Ordinance Update: Members asked for an update on the Ordinance change concerning Financial Disclosure Statement filing requirements. Ms. Long was unaware that she had been "volunteered" to work on this project; however, she said she would have a draft to the members at the following meeting. Mr. Bush will try to find an electronic version of the Ordinance so Ms. Long won't have to retype the document.

Members continued to discuss the Boards and Commissions that should be added to the filing requirements. Mr. Bush restated that the Library Board of Trustees should be added. At a minimum, the Director of the Board of Trustees and all the Branch Managers should be required to file FDS forms.

Mr. Bush relayed concerns about the current form and the section concerning vendors. A citizen wanted a list of all vendors so they could make sure they were in compliance with the Ordinance. Membership agreed that it would be impossible to provide a comprehensive list of all vendors doing business with the County.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

FY2010 Budget Book Review: Ms. Cannavo did not bring the approved budget book to the meeting. The book will be given to members during the next meeting for review. Members asked if they should reconsider reducing the Ethics' budget for the secretary position. Mr. Bush was concerned that they Commission may need some typing done in the future and may have to hire someone to do it. For example, if the electronic version of the Ethics Ordinance is not located, someone will have to retype it. Ms. Cannavo explained that the position of Executive Secretary had been cut and that staff support will be provided by the County Administrators Staff; no position / funding will be added.

Ethics Briefing changes: Mr. Bush will be presenting the Ethics Overview Briefing to the Department of Aging on September 23, 2009. He asked if anyone had updates for the briefing slides and requested that the membership to send him any changes.

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Mr. Goeller to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Denning and the motion was carried. The St. Mary's County Ethics Commission was adjourned at 2:30 PM.