

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF November 6, 2006**

**St. Mary's County Governmental Center**

**Members Present:**     **George E. Baroniak, Chair**  
                              **Joseph B. Bush, Vice Chair**  
                              **David S. Deaderick, Member**  
                              **Arthur F. Goeller, Member**  
                              **Warren Kunz, Member**  
                              **Viola M. Gardner, Alternate**  
                              **Susan J. Wolfe, Executive Secretary**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Baroniak at 2:05 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on November 20, 2006.

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:**

Minutes of October 16, 2006. A motion was made by Mr. Bush to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and carried.

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:**

One statement was reviewed. Mr. Baroniak noted he recently spoke with George Forrest, County Administrator, about the three individuals who did not file Calendar Year 2005 statements.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Revised Ethics Ordinance; Follow-up After Public Hearing. Members who attended the public hearing briefed the commission on the presentation and Mr. Deaderick remarked that the decision on whether or not the Ordinance would be approved would probably wait until after the election.

Calendar Year 2006 Financial Disclosure Statement Preparation. Members discussed suggested changes to the cover letter and FDS form for Calendar Year 2006. All agreed to review the letter and form further and discuss them at the next meeting.

Ethics Commission Brochure. The draft brochure will be distributed to the members prior to the December 4 meeting. It was agreed that the reference to Section 5.D.Solicitation of Gifts would simply cite to the Ethics Ordinance on the commission's website.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

FY08 Budget Process. Mr. Baroniak reported that he received the first call FY 2008 budget document from the Chief Financial Officer. Further documents will be forthcoming from the Finance Department and will be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Baroniak asked Ms. Wolfe to bring a copy of the current FY 2007 budget to the next meeting.

**VOTE TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mr. Deaderick made a motion to move into Executive Session as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)(1) Boards and Commissions and the St. Mary's County Ethics Commission Rules of Procedure, Section 7, and the motion was seconded. Motion carried, 5-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Present:** George E. Baroniak, Chair  
David S. Deaderick, Member  
Arthur Goeller, Member  
Warren Kunz, Member  
Viola Gardner, Alternate Member

Authority: St. Mary's County Code, Article 24, Section 4-210(a)(1) Boards and Commissions; St. Mary's County Ethics Commission Rules of Procedure, Section 7.

Time Held: 2:34 to 2:43 p.m.

Mr. Deaderick moved that the Executive Session be closed. The motion was seconded and approved.

*The regular meeting resumed at 2:44 p.m.*

Tri-County Ethics Training. Members agreed to go forward with planning a Tri-County ethics training in 2007, in cooperation with the State Ethics Commission. Mr. Baroniak will contact the chairmen of the Charles and Calvert ethics commissions.

Charles County Ethics Commission. Members noted the recent *Washington Post* article entitled "Cooper on Ethics Case." Mr. Cooper is seeking reappointment to his position as President of the Board of County Commissioners. Also discussed was a *Post* article from the same issue entitled "Charles Seeks Volunteers for Boards and Commission," specifically the call for volunteers for the county ethics commission.

2007 Meeting Schedule. Members were asked to review the proposed 2007 Ethics Commission meeting schedule by the next meeting.

Inquiry from Public Information Office. Representatives from the Public Information Office (PIO) passed on an inquiry from a citizen who is considering applying to the Library Board of Trustees and whose wife is a current employee of the library system. After discussion, in consultation with Mr. Bush who is the current President of the Library Board of Trustees, it was determined that no conflict of interest exists as defined in the Ethics Ordinance. Mr. Baroniak will provide the commission's comments to the PIO so they can contact the citizen.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Mr. Deaderick to adjourn the meeting at 2:56 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.