

Board of County Commissioners Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 1970

Present: F. Elliott Burch, President
George R. Aud, Commissioner
J. Wilmer Bowles, Commissioner
Paul R. Raley, Administrative Assistant
Helen M. Bailey (Mrs.), Admin. Asst. (Recording)

The meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m.

Payments Approved

N. B. Greenwood, for appraisal reports, Site No. 1, St. Mary's River Watershed-----	\$2,000.00
St. Mary's Law Library Account, Clerk of Court-----	1,023.50
Bussells & Company, for Richneck Road Improvements--	1,315.00
Larredore Road Improvements-----	320.00
Hugh W. Wilkerson, Engineering, Sanitary Landfill at Valley Lee-----	1,930.00
Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Scholarship for Judith L. Sanger-----	474.50
Southern Maryland Wood Treating, Tall Timbers Shore Erosion Project, total of six invoices-----	1,089.20
Delahay's Pile Driving Service, Tall Timbers Shore Erosion Project:	
Labor, week August 24-28, 1970-----	3,145.00
Labor, week August 17 - 21, 1970-----	3,145.00

Board of Elections Supervisors

At the request of the Board of Elections Supervisors who stated that they were having much difficulty in obtaining sufficient workers for the Primary Election, the Board of County Commissioners approved an increase in wages for

Judges, Clerks and Door Keepers in the 20 precincts of the nine election districts, St. Mary's County. Workers were raised to \$25.00 per day, from a previous allowance of \$20.00 per day.

In addition, it was agreed to provide a portable comfort station for the convenience of the poll workers for the 9th District, St. George's Island, at a cost not to exceed \$25.00 per day.

State Roads Commission -- County Maintenance Fund

The Board of County Commissioners approved the transfer of \$10,000.00 into the SRC Sanitary Landfill Maintenance fund; and payment of \$3,813.26 to the SRC for the construction of Horse Landing Bridge.

Wigginton and Loker

Title Fees for St. Mary's River Watershed Properties

Mr. Robert E. Wigginton stated that his firm would be able to handle the title fees for the St. Mary's River Watershed properties at the minimum fee schedule as adopted by the Bar Association Schedule and that the estimated cost would be \$880.00 maximum for the package. Further, Mr. Wigginton stated that title insurance based on appraised value was optional but could be obtained for an overall estimate of \$430.10. It was the consensus that title insurance would not be necessary.

Messrs. Burch and Aud voted to engage the services of Wigginton and Loker for this purpose.

Dukehart Creek Dredging Project

The problem which exists with the heirs to the Alfred Toombs property and their Trustee, Mr. Roy Daniels, was outlined in detail to the County Attorney, Mr. Robert E. Wigginton. A telephone call was placed to Mr. Hutchins of Chesapeake Bay Affairs. Mr. Hutchins indicated to Mr. Burch that he felt confident that the Trustee could persuade the heirs to change their views concerning the marshland -- the issue under contention. Mr. Hutchins stated that the marshland is two feet above water level with the normal tide, and that it is a real nebulous situation. He said that all there is in the way of a boundary is the position of the creek at

ebb tide, and that the property owners have gained more land than there was originally. The main point is whether they own it or not. Our drawings call for bisecting the land as it is now. Mr. Hutchins stated it is a real legal situation which could be decided either way. If the heirs continue to contest the plans, it will have to go to Court. The present Wetlands Bill, passed last year, provides that land which builds up through natural forces belongs to the owner. On land that is lost through natural forces, the bottom reverts to the State of Maryland.

Mr. Burch summed up by stating that he thought it would be most appropriate to contact Mrs. Lynn Dowell, the daughter of Toombs, and arrange for her to discuss the matter directly with Mr. Hutchins and himself, preferably on the site. Mr. Paul R. Raley was requested to contact Mrs. Dowell in this regard.

State Roads Commission
J. Dennis Raley, Jr. and Douglas Bond

Messrs. Raley and Bond appeared before the County Commissioners at the request of Mr. Burch. Mr. Burch stated that there seemed to be some misunderstanding concerning a proposed letter which had been drafted recommending Mr. Raley for promotion, at the Benedict Field Office, as Resident Maintenance Engineer. Mr. Burch laid the matter on the top of the table and Mr. Robert E. Wigginton read the proposed letter to Mr. David H. Fisher, Chairman-Director of the SRC, as well as a letter to the Governor of Maryland transmitting a copy of the letter to Mr. Fisher. Mr. Burch stated that the intention of the correspondence was to give a worthy individual a well-earned and well-deserved promotion, if possible. Mr. Bond stated that he thought the Commissioners should back Mr. Raley 100%, that he thought the letters were certainly "very, very nice and would back everything said in them 100%, as being 100% true". Mr. Burch reiterated to Mr. Bond that the recommendation was for Mr. Raley to be appointed to such a position at the Benedict Field Office, that it was no reflection at all against Mr. Bond, that the position at the Leonardtown office was not involved. Mr. Burch asked Mr. Bond if that cleared the air, to which Mr. Bond replied, "100%, and I certainly appreciate your calling me in here to tell me this". At this point, Mr. Douglas Bond left the meeting.

Maypole Road

The Board of County Commissioners advised Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. of the SRC that the Board of County Commissioners would transmit a check to the SRC for the balance due on construction for Maypole Road in the amount of \$17,469.69 upon receipt of the bond-issue money in mid-September, (\$300,000 issue). The total cost for construction of Maypole Road, according to Mr. Raley's figures, was \$22,737.69.

Hermanville Road

Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. submitted the plans for the construction of the Hermanville Road, as prepared by Hugh W. Wilkerson and Associates. It was agreed, in accordance with the recommendation of Messrs. Raley and Tate of the SRC, that construction for this project should be advertised for bid in St. Mary's County and that the construction would be administered by the SRC and inspected by the SRC. The County Engineer, Mr. August H. Wagener, and Mr. Hugh W. Wilkerson are to meet with Mr. Allan W. Tate, District Engineer, in an effort to reduce some of the "rolls" in the plans and to provide for seven-foot shoulders, in accordance with Mr. Tate's recommendation. All rights-of-way necessary for completion of the construction have been obtained. Bond-issue money will be allocated for this construction.

Oakville Sanitary Landfill

Mr. August H. Wagener, County Engineer, mentioned that Mr. Walter A. Miles wishes to expedite the opening of the Oakville Sanitary Landfill and to discuss methods of operation with Mr. John Hall of the Soil Conservation Service. Mr. Burch motioned that we open the Oakville Sanitary Landfill and operate it, without charge to the users (including commercial trash haulers) until January 1, 1971, at which time the new ordinance imposing rules, regulations and charges could be considered. Mr. Burch recommended such action due to the urgent need for trash disposal facilities in St. Mary's County. Mr. Aud agreed that such action should be taken and, accordingly, the draft resolution was reviewed. Messrs. Paul R. Raley and Robert E. Wigginton were charged with the responsibility of finalizing an appropriate resolution and press release concerning the opening of the Oakville Sanitary Landfill.

Removal of abandoned mobile hamburger shop
Hollywood Intersection of Routes 245 and 235

Mr. Aud mentioned that Mrs. Dean had given her permission to remove the old and dilapidated mobile hamburger shop which reposes at the intersection of Routes 245 and 235 in Hollywood. Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. was requested to haul the item to the Oakville Sanitary Landfill.

Mechanicsville Public Trash Disposal Area

Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. recommended that the Board of County Commissioners seriously consider the closing of the Mechanicsville Dump (Half-Way House) after 6:30 p.m.

Youth Services Bureau

Dr. John H. Mills, Executive Director of the Tri-County Council, outlined an opportunity for St. Mary's County to participate, under the Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice contract which has been signed for this fiscal year in the amount of \$100,000.00. This is a Tri-County contract. There is the possibility that the program would assist in alleviating the juvenile detention program transportation problem. It would be a voluntary program and if it were associated with a detention aspect, many would not want to become involved in it. This effort would be directed toward potential delinquent problems before the fact. It is a unique program in Maryland, but has been very effective in other States. Rehabilitation cases would be detected in a variety of ways -- in the schools, Health Department clinics, Department of Social Services, etc. -- and the St. Mary's indigents would first be submitted to psychiatric analysis rather than transportation to, or assignment to, an institution. The first phase of this project is research and evaluation to find out the magnitude of the problem. The Juvenile Services Bureau is particularly interested in this project as are the other agencies, who admittedly have over-lapping authorities. Services would be provided within the Tri-County area rather than moving the indigents to a Detention Center. At the present time, facilities for this Bureau are being contemplated in the Hughesville area -- possibly Dr. Griffin's Office, which is available. Dr. Mills summed up by stating that he would appreciate having the considered views and suggestions of the Board and that he would be happy to investigate or research any questions they might wish to pose.

Roads Meeting

Mr. Bond stated that Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. had suggested that the County surface-treat Lewis Thomas Road (off Hatchet Thicket Road) which is 2/10 mile in length and the only County road in that area which has not already been surface-treated. This would prove to be an economy measure insofar as movement of equipment is concerned. The Board agreed that County #123 (2/10 mile) and County #124 (11/10 mile) would be added to the oiling schedule.

County-owned Roads Equipment

Mr. Louis B. Mattingly (Kingfish) sent word by Mr. Bond that the County Loader's rear housing and internal parts are "all torn up" and that the approximate repair cost will be \$2,000.00. Mr. Bond stated that it could be repaired out of maintenance funds, if the Commissioners did not elect to replace it.

Mr. Burch requested that Mr. Bond submit a list of all County-owned equipment, annotating the condition of the vehicles and their life expectancies.

Chaptico/Hurrey Road (Bridge Area)

Mr. Aud requested that the big holes on both sides of the road near the bridge area on the Chaptico/Hurrey Road be repaired before some serious damage or accident occurs. The roadway has washed and it is barely possible to get through.

River Road (next Frank Gass' Store -- Colton's Point)

Mr. Aud reported that repair work should be accomplished on River Road.

Hewitt Road (at Route 235)

Mr. Aud requested that repairs be done on the ditches which are clogged up on Hewitt Road (at Route 235). He stated that the drainage pipe should also be cleaned out.

Public Landing -- St. George's Island

Authorization was given to fill in with gravel at the public landing at St. George's Island and to make a place for vehicles to turn around.

Mr. Wagener was requested to send a letter by certified mail to Mr. George Poe, Jr. requesting that he remove the two refrigerators which contain bait from the public wharf at St. George's Island.

Mr. Wagener reported that residents are using the public wharf to tie up, on a continuing basis, thereby reducing the space available to the public. Mr. Wagener was requested to notify the offenders that they were not privileged to use a public wharf as a private landing.

In answer to Mr. Bowles' query, Mr. Paul R. Raley stated that the Sheriff's Department is responsible for patrolling public wharves and landings and for enforcing the law on these properties, which are owned by the County.

Richneck Road

Mr. Wagener reported that three persons cannot be located to sign rights-of-way documents for reconstruction of Richneck Road; there are one or two alignment problems; and no one has signed the plat as yet. Mr. Wagener will oversee this project.

Bennett Property for Landfill

Mr. Wagener stated that he had requested Mr. Focer to stake out approximately 50 acres of the Bennett property and said he thought the Bennetts might be willing to sell this for use as a Sanitary Landfill. Mr. Bowles suggested that we take an option on the land.

Emergency Operations Center
Radio Maintenance Contract

Mr. Otis F. Wood, Acting Director, Office of Civil Defense, reported that the Potomac Marine Electronics firm has requested termination of their radio maintenance contract due to the ill health of Mr. Joseph Bailey, the electronics maintenance technician. The Commissioners agreed that Mr. Wood should advertise immediately for bids for a new radio maintenance contract.

Generator Problem - EOC

Mr. Wood described a problem he is having with the generator at the Emergency Operations Center, which is presumably caused by unclean diesel fuel. Mr. Burch requested that the fuel be tested for "flash". Mr. Wood expects that the trouble might be obviated with the arrival and installation of new filter rings.

Sediment Control Ordinance

Mr. John Hall of the USDA Soil Conservation Service appeared to request early action on the formation of a Task Force to frame a Sediment Control Ordinance, which is required by H. B. 1151, such ordinance to be accepted by the Department of Natural Resources, by March 1, 1971. Mr. John Hall urged Tri-County collaboration in this regard, since the soils in all three counties are similar, and a Tri-County effort might be more effective and productive.

The Board of County Commissioners selected the names of the following individuals and agreed that letters of invitation be written to them requesting service on a Task Force to formulate a uniform and acceptable Sediment Control Program for St. Mary's, Charles, and Calvert Counties:

Commissioner George R. Aud
 Mr. Bradford Reeves, to serve as Temporary Chairman
 Mr. William Leon Etzler, Southern Maryland Regional
 Planning Office
 Mr. August H. Wagener, County Engineer
 Mr. Joe Gough
 Mr. John Hodges
 Mr. Richard Breck
 jMr. Francis Dean
 Mr. Alfred Dillow
 Mr. William Chapman
 Mr. Robert Moore
 Mr. Albert Focer
 Mr. Aubrey Mattingly
 Mr. Robert Dean
 Mr. John Hall, USDA, Soil Conservation Service
 Mr. James Beavan
 Mr. Joseph Bernard Trossbach
 Mr. Douglas Bond, State Roads Commission
 Mr. Walter A. R um, Department of Health

Recreation and Parks
Contract and Bidding Procedures

Mr. John V. Baggett, Director of Recreation and Parks, appeared to be briefed on the protocol concerning the advertisement of bids, the opening of bids, and the letting of contracts. Mr. Baggett was advised that detailed information could be obtained from the County Purchasing Agent, Mr. Paul R. Raley, and that if Legal advice is indicated, the good offices of the County Attorney, Mr. Robert E. Wigginton, are available to him.

Metropolitan Commission/Patuxent Water Company

In view of a forthcoming decision from the Public Service Commission on the purchase of the Patuxent Water Company by the Metropolitan Commission, the Board of County Commissioners agreed to send a telegram to the People's Counsel, Mr. Peter Parker, indicating their approval of the acquisition by the Metropolitan Commission of the Patuxent Water Company, and urging immediate action in order to prevent serious health hazards which may result to the Community. The telegram was telephoned in to Western Union at 6:00 p.m.

The County Commissioners Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Approved,

F. Elliott Burch