

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Thursday, January 2, 1975

Present: Commissioner James M. McKay, President
Commissioner Ford L. Dean
Commissioner J. Patrick Jarboe
Commissioner J. Laurence Millison
Commissioner John K. Parlett
Edward V. Cox, Chief Clerk
Judith A. Mullins, Recording Secretary

Also present were: Jack Kershaw, Enterprise,
Patty Muchow, Guardian and Mike Kleinbeck, WKIK.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Commissioner President McKay.

READING OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 26, 1974 were read and corrected.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Parlett made a motion to approve the minutes of December 18, 1974, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion. Commissioner McKay signed same.

BILL APPROVED

The following bill was approved by the Commissioners:

Maryland State Highway Administration, dated December 20, 1974, for construction inspection costs on St. Andrews Church Road for the month of October, 1974 - \$2,756.92.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve payment of the above bill, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-1

PLAN FOR DESIGNATION OF AREAS OF CRITICAL STATE CONCERN

Present: Richard Platt, Director, Land Use and Development

Mr. Platt stated that on December 19, 1974 the Planning

Commission adopted a resolution on a Plan for Designation of Areas of Critical State Concern and proposed its adoption as a change to the Comprehensive Plan of St. Mary's County. He requested approval of a Resolution by the County Commissioners of same. Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 75-1 Plan for Designation of Areas of Critical State Concern, to be included in the Comprehensive Plan for St. Mary's County, effective December 31, 1974, seconded by Commissioner Dean.

The Commissioners voted four to one on this motion. Commissioner Millison voted against adoption of this Resolution as he was opposed to State interference in St. Mary's County zoning.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-2

SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

Present: Richard Platt, Director, Land Use and Development

The County Commissioners held a public hearing on the consideration of adoption of Subdivision Regulations and Procedures on December 18, 1974, therefore, Commissioner Dean made a motion to re-adopt the "Regulations Relating to the Control of Land Subdivision in St. Mary's County, January 12, 1954", as amended, and Resolution No. 72-28 entitled "Procedures Governing the Submission and Approval of Land Subdivision Plans in St. Mary's County, Maryland, September 26, 1972", as amended, which is consolidated into a document entitled "St. Mary's County Subdivision Regulations and Procedures", effective December 31, 1974, seconded by Commissioner Parlett. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

ZONING AND RELATED FEES

Present: Richard Platt, Director, Land Use and Development

Mr. Platt presented a Resolution entitled Zoning and Related Fees proposed for adoption by the Board of County Commissioners. The Commissioners decided that they would table the matter of zoning and Related Fees until January 8, 1975. At this time they would consider only the Building Permit Fee Schedule.

RESOLUTION NO. 75-3

BUILDING PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE

Present: Richard Platt, Director, Land Use and Development

Later in the meeting, Mr. Platt returned and the Commissioners made several amendments to the Building Permit Fee Schedule Resolution.

Commissioner Parlett made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 75-3, "Building Permit Fee Schedule" as amended, effective December 31, 1974, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to exempt any building permit fees that were collected on Thursday, January 2, 1975 from the payment fee according to the schedule of Resolution No. 75-3, effective December 31, 1974, seconded by Commissioner Parlett. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

SEWAGE FACILITIES-EVERGREEN PARK

Commissioner Millison brought to the Board's attention the Health Department's notice to certain residents in Evergreen Park concerning inadequate sewage facilities and the possibility that unless the problems are corrected, those residents may have to vacate their homes. Commissioners McKay and Parlett stated they had been made aware of the situation and that the Metropolitan Commission in negotiating the matter on a short term and long term basis.

DISCUSSION OF BILL APPROVAL

Commissioner Millison raised the question as to whether or not the other Commissioners would be in favor of lowering the amount of bill approving authority and bring all approvals under the Commissioners direct control for those bills over \$100. After some discussion, the matter was tabled.

OIL SPILL AT STEUART PETROLEUM COMPANY

Commissioner Millison brought to the Board's attention the danger of oil spills at Steuart Petroleum Company's facilities at Piney Point and its effect on oysters and there is a need for the Board to be aware of all surveillance and corrective measures being taken. He requested that inquiries be made of the Coast Guard and the Department of Natural Resources concerning this matter. No action was taken at this time.

DRILLING OF WELLS AT ABELL'S WHARF AREA

Commissioner Millison mentioned concern over the drilling of well at the Langenfelder sand and gravel project at the Abell's Wharf area. The project calls for drilling of wells approximately 450 feet deep to draw up to a maximum of 60,000 gallons of water per day to be used in the processing of the sand and gravel project. Mr. Millison suggested writing to the Department of Natural Resources to determine what effect the drilling of those wells would have on the existing wells in that area.

Commissioner Dean commented that the Planning Commission has been studying the matter and has instructed the Land Use Office to gather all necessary information and contact the Department of Natural Resources.

SUBDIVISION PLATS-ECONOMIC IMPACT FEE EXEMPTIONS

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

Upon presentation of documents by Mr. Norris showing that the processing of plans had been delayed due to the backlog in his office, the Commissioners were in agreement that Beverly Estates and Southgate Subdivision were exempted from payment of the Economic Impact Fee according to the terms of Resolution No. 74-42 "Economic Impact Fee" which stated that "Not subject to the Economic Impact Fee are: Subdivisions submitted to and being processed by the Planning Commission prior to December 26, 1973, provided, however, that said subdivisions were recorded prior to November 15, 1974."

Mr. Norris was directed to draw up a resolution exempting the above-named subdivisions.

PRESS CONFERENCE

Present: Jack Kershaw, Enterprise
Jean Matheson, Enterprise
Sunny Schust, Enterprise
Richard Polk, Enterprise
Patty Muchow, Guardian
Mike Kleinbeck, WKIK
Randy Buehler, Beacon
Eric Bromely, WPTX
David Constantine, Guardian

At this time the monthly Press Conference was held. A tape of the Conference is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Present: John T. Cecil, Deputy Secretary, Dept. of Agriculture
Ronald Johnson, Dir., Div. of Plan Industries, Dept. of Agr.
Dr. Robert M. Altman, Chief Pest Management Section, Dept. of Agr.
Ralph H. Brown, Dept. of Agriculture
Joseph L. Harding, Dept. of Agriculture

The above persons came before the Commissioners to discuss changes in the Mosquito Control Program in St. Mary's County. Mr. Johnson explained that the State desired to replace the Rotomist sprayers mounted on one ton trucks with Ultra Low Volume insecticide sprayers using undiluted insecticide mounted on ½ ton pick-up trucks. Mr. Cecil explained that excellent mosquito control has been obtained using this new method and the County would be receiving better service (longer spraying season, more frequent treatments, more communities included) at no additional cost.

The Commissioners agreed to the replacement of these trucks and requested that notification of sale of the old trucks be forwarded to this Office.

Dr. Altman requested that the County handle the finances of the Mosquito Control Program rather than the State employees in the County doing this. He stated that Mr. Harding and Mr. Brown could help with the computation of costs, but actual handling of funds should be handled by the County. The Commissioners requested Mr. Harding and Mr. Brown to meet with Mr. McGlade, Comptroller, to work out the details.

Mr. Cecil stated the Mosquito Control Program is in need of new headquarters and they are looking into the possibility of combining St. Mary's and Charles County in one location. Commissioner Millison suggested that they look at the large building at Leonard Hall for office and storage facilities. Dr. Altman agreed to look at this facility and stated he will also look at other locations and advise the Commissioners.

In concluding, Commissioner McKay requested that the Department of Agriculture develop a Press Release to advise the community of the new type of mosquito control services that will be used in the County.

MANPOWER PLANNING COUNCIL

Present: Joel Matz, Chairman Manpower Planning Council
Harry Hamman, Acting Director, Employment Services for Md.
H. D. McGlade, Comptroller

Mr. Matz summarized the background of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) federal legislation passed in 1973. In general the purpose of the legislation was to provide funds to correct unemployment problems. Title II of CETA is designed to affect those areas of the county suffering from very high unemployment, defined as 6.5% of the work force for three consecutive months. In St. Mary's County, election districts 1, 2, 8 and 9 are so classified as areas of critical unemployment. Mr. Matz informed the Commissioners that there are available monies for St. Mary's County government for public service employment in the amount of \$33,375 for FY '74 and \$56,254 for FY '75. He has encumbered these amounts but is under pressure to employ them as soon as possible in St. Mary's County or redistribute them to other parts of the State. He needs a decision by next week. The Commissioners expressed their interest in using the available funds to lessen the impact of the unemployment problems. In October 1974 the unemployment rate in St. Mary's County was 3.9% and in November 6.5%.

The Commissioners advised Mr. Matz that they will be in touch with him within a week.

Mr. Matz provided several documents pertaining to CETA which are on file in the Commissioners' Office.

Commissioner Millison requested Mr. Matz to provide the County with monthly reports regarding the unemployment rate for St. Mary's County. Mr. Matz agreed and also suggested that the local Department of Employment Security could be of assistance in providing this information.

Mr. Matz also informed the Commissioners that new federal legislation was going to provide additional funds but that all of the details were not yet known. He stated that he would keep in touch with the County regarding these programs.

OUTDOOR DRAMA - "WINGS OF THE MORNING"

Present: Bernard Johnson, President, Outdoor Drama Association
Marvin Joy, Chairman, Bicentennial Commission
John Baggett, Director of Recreation and Parks
C. I. Fenwick, Jr., Recreation and Parks Board
Ed Atkins, Proposed Producer/Coordinator

Also present were members of the Outdoor Drama Association.

Commissioner McKay began by stating that all parties have been brought together to try to resolve the problems concerning Outdoor Drama, Bicentennial Commission and Recreation and Parks.

Mr. Johnson explained that the Outdoor Drama would like to have funds to hire an Executive Producer, Director and secretarial help in such a manner that Outdoor Drama could work cooperatively with the Bicentennial Commission and to have a contract with Recreation and Parks to have the Drama "Wings of the Morning" at the amphitheater. He expressed the necessity of promoting the drama outside the County in order to attract more people and to build up an interest in the drama. This was to be the purpose of the Producer/Coordinator. He further stated that it may be ten years before the drama could be held at St. Mary's City.

Mr. Joy explained that the \$30,000 that had been requested from the Commissioners was to be shared by the Bicentennial Commission and Outdoor Drama Association for the employment of the above-mentioned positions and that the \$10,000 allocated by the past Board of Commissioners at their meeting of December 10, 1974 was sufficient for the needs of the Bicentennial Commission.

Mr. Baggett was of the opinion that the Outdoor Drama should be presented as part of a total package of the amphitheater program. He stated that the purpose of the amphitheater was recreation for residents of St. Mary's County but not for a large scale promotion outside the County. He stated that the amphitheater experienced financial difficulties last year and that "Wings of the Morning" only drew an average of 90 persons an evening. Other programs with local talent were more successful. He felt that the drama could be shown at the amphitheater as an interim measure to get the flaws out of the drama until such time that it would become a large operation and go to St. Mary's City.

Mr. Fenwick agreed with Mr. Baggett that the amphitheater was a good starting point for the drama, where it could be refined. And he stated that Recreation and Parks is an existing agency through which Outdoor Drama should operate for the time being.

There was considerable discussion as to the cost of the drama and the losses it incurred last year.

Commissioner Dean inquired if there were any private contributions to assist the drama. Mr. Johnson said he had applied to various foundations for funds; however, none had been available at that time and he was going to apply again.

Next there was discussion on the employment of the person who would promote the drama. Mr. Baggett was of the opinion that the position should be advertised and that the person hired could also work on "Haunted House", "Mother Goose House" and other such projects. He felt that he should have some say as to the hiring of this person. Commissioner McKay suggested a contractual employee under Recreation and Parks but working exclusively for Outdoor Drama for a given period of time.

The Commissioners tabled this matter until later in the day.

Later in the meeting, the Commissioners again discussed the Outdoor Drama situation. Commissioner Dean said the Commissioners have to decide whether they will underwrite "Wings of the Morning" and then decide who should be in charge of it.

The Commissioners discussed at length the financial aspect of the drama and whether the County could absorb a loss again this year. They were of the opinion that it would not be a financial success until the drama is moved to St. Mary's City.

Commissioner Millison suggested a temporary type of stage at St. Mary's City until such time as an amphitheater could be built at that location and suggested that the students of the College could be utilized to help in the drama.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion that Commissioner Dean notify all principals involved that it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners to try to fund Outdoor Drama through the Bicentennial Commission, subject to arrangements being made to have "Wings of the Morning" located at St. Mary's City, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

The Commissioners will discuss this decision with Dr. Renwick Jackson, President, St. Mary's College.

Mr. Johnson will be requested to submit a budget through Mr. Joy, Bicentennial Commission, and present same to the Commissioners.

Mr. Cox raised the question as to whether or not the Bicentennial Commission should exercise the authority which was given by the former Commissioners. Said authority granted \$10,000 to the Bicentennial Commission to be used for the employment of a secretary/coordinator and operating expenses. Commissioner McKay responded that the Bicentennial could exercise that authority.

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Present: John Norris, County Engineer
Doug Bond, Resident Engineer
Jerry Day, Highway Maintenance Supervisor
Arnold Garner, District Engineer

Mr. Norris and Mr. Bond presented Jerry Day and Arnold Garner to the Commissioners prior to the State Highway meeting tomorrow on the Secondary Program for St. Mary's County for the next five years.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

Because of the pressures of the increased workload, Commissioner McKay suggested that in addition to the regular Wednesday meeting, the Commissioners will meet on Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. until such time as their appointments in County business can be handled on the Wednesday meeting of each week.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRAM

Present: Michael Humphries, County Archaeologist

Mr. Humphries presented his annual report and a list of his redefined responsibilities. He expressed concern over Indian and historical materials being removed from the County and stated there should be some control to prevent this. He stated he submitted legislation last year for this. Commissioner McKay said that the legislative package is being developed and the Commissioners will review any legislation that had not been acted on.

Mr. Humphries said that the Newtown area is filled with historical artifacts and they should be retrieved before any development begins there.

In addition, Mr. Humphries mentioned his concern over the view around the water in St. Mary's City and that the tree line should be left as is.

Mr. Humphries suggested and recommended that over the next couple of years that there be some endeavor for funding to be set aside to register archaeological and historical sites from one end of the County to the other so that when time came for development these sites would be known. He stated that this would not take more than \$3,000 to undertake this project and could be done in the summer months over a period of two years. He said he would look for the possibilities for funding for this.

BRICKS AT LIGHTHOUSE - ST. CLEMENT ISLAND

Present: Michael Humphries, County Archaeologist

Mr. Humphries stated that he did not see the feasibility or desirability for removing the bricks at the old lighthouse that were uncovered during the December 1 storm. He suggested reconstructing the foundation of the old lighthouse using those bricks and it could be a monument to the ships that went up and down the Potomac River. Since this is State property, he suggested that the State should undertake this project.

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Present: George Sparling, State's Attorney-elect

Pursuant to Article 10, Section 40 (s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Mr. Sparling presented a request for appropriations for the State's Attorney's Office.

Mr. Sparling requested the following:

1. Full time assistant, annual salary of \$23,500. A portion of this salary is provided by an LEAJ grant. Mr. Sparling stated he intends to hire John Slade for this position;
2. Part-time Assistant State's Attorney at an annual salary of \$11,500;
3. Investigator at an annual salary of \$12,000 with travel expenses of \$500. Funding for this position is substantially funded by an LEAJ grant. Mr. Sparling stated that after the grant runs out in 18 months, he would make a determination whether this position is warranted or not.
4. Secretary-Assignment Clerk at an annual salary of \$8,500;
5. Clerk-Stenographer at an annual salary of \$5,500.

Mr. Sparling requested the transfer of \$1500 from Special Investigator Account to Salaries Account.

After reviewing and discussing this request, Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to approve the budget as submitted by the State's Attorney and authorize up to \$2,541.64 for the remainder of FY '75 to be taken from the FY '75 Contingency Fund, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to authorize the State's Attorney to employ clerical help for the State's Attorney's Office at the salaries indicated above, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

Mr. McGlade and Mr. Cox will work out the details and advise the Commissioners.

HANGAR AT AIRPORT

Present: H. D. McGlade, Comptroller

Mr. McGlade explained that the County Audit did not reflect the \$124,950 that was budgeted and committed for the Airport in FY '74 as a reserve account nor as an accounts payable. The Contract for the hangar was not signed until July, after the start of FY '75. The auditors, therefore, determined that the funds should not be held as a legally encumbered amount. To remedy this situation, Mr. McGlade recommended that \$124,950 be transferred from the FY '75 Land and Building Account to the Airport Account.

After discussion, Commissioner Dean made a motion to authorize the transfer of \$124,950 from the Land and Building Account to the Airport Account #90-90142, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

LIST OF EMPLOYEES

Ed Cox submitted a list of all County employees by department, with position titles, grades and salaries as of January 1, 1975, and dates they were hired.

In addition, Mr. Cox submitted a list of contractual employees showing dates of employment and contract.

LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

Mr. Cox stated that Miss Ann Marie Lowe, who had been an intern in Annapolis and is a student at Towson State College, has volunteered her services for the month of January to help in developing the Legislative Package.

A tentative date of January 23 was set to informally present the package to the Legislators and then formally at a public meeting on January 25.

MACO WINTER CONFERENCE

Mr. Cox advised the Commissioners that Don McGlade, Comptroller and Richard Platt, Director, Land Use and Development, requested to attend the MACO Conference. Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

OFFICE BUILDING FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

A letter dated December 19, 1974 was received from Dr. Robert King, Superintendent of Schools requesting consideration for an office building for the Board of Education at Leonard Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Approved,

 1-14-75
James M. McKay
President