

**Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, October 5, 2021)**  
*Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, October 6, 2021*

**Members present**

Commissioner President James R. Guy  
Commissioner Eric Colvin  
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt  
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan  
Commissioner John E. O'Connor  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
ALisa Casas, Communications Director, Public Information Office

Commissioner President Guy called the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at 9:06 a.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

I move to approve the Consent Agenda, which contains the Minutes of September 28, 2021, as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Eric Colvin, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**2. PROCLAMATIONS**

Proclamations were presented for:

- A. National 4-H Week
- B. National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- C. Case Management Recognition Week
- D. National Disability Employment Awareness Month

**3. PRESENTATION**

**A. COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AWARD CEREMONY**

**Present:** Lidiya Belyovska, Chair, Commission on People with Disabilities  
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human Resources

Awards were presented to:

Volunteer: Joe St. Clair  
Notable Employer: Texas Roadhouse

Care Partner Award: Debra Bowles  
Innovative Program: Crystal Haislip  
Vicky Brown Awards: Mary Randall- Posthumously, Jahaun Lee

#### **4. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR OCTOBER 19 AND 26, 2021.** There will be no meeting of the Commissioners on October 12, 2021

**B. HUMAN RESOURCES - SHERIFF'S OFFICE - Station Clerk Career Ladder Request**

I move to approve developing a career ladder for the Station Clerk position within the Sheriff's Office for existing Station Clerk employees and new hires.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Eric Colvin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**C. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - BOARD OF EDUCATION - Request approval of a FY2022 categorical budget adjustment**

I move to approve the Board of Education's request of a FY2022 categorical budget adjustment for the purchase of new equipment.

Motion by Commissioner Eric Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**D. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - ST. MARY'S COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION - Resolution issuing DHCD bonds**

I move to approve the County's Resolution authorizing full faith and credit of Metropolitan Commission's issuance of infrastructure bonds in an amount not to exceed \$10,700,000 in accordance with Section 113-2.C. of the Code of St. Mary's County and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any related documents.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**E. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - American Rescue Plan Act**

I move to approve the \$65,000 for the Hollywood Fire Department rescue craft and I also approve the \$543,120 to be allocated for the fire rescue administered by the Emergency Services Board and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any documents as required.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**F. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - Resolution for the Administration of the Accommodation Tax

I move to approve the Resolution to establish regulations to provide for the administration of the accommodation tax and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**5. COMMISSIONERS' TIME**

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week and provided general comments.

**MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:** I move to enter into Closed Session to discuss Personnel and Real Property,

Motion by Commissioner Eric Colvin, second by Commissioner John O'Connor.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**6. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. PERSONNEL**

*(Commissioner President Guy recused himself)*

**Present:** Eric Colvin, Commissioner  
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner  
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
Diane Gleissner, Coordinator  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 11:10 a.m.-11:13 a.m.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room

Purpose: To consider/discuss the appointment of a member of a public agency or employee, unless the individual as a matter of public record makes a written request for an open session.

## **B. PERSONNEL**

**Present:** James R. Guy, Commissioner President  
Eric Colvin, Commissioner  
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner  
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human resources  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 11:14 a.m.-11:25 a.m.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room

Purpose: To consider or discuss the assignment, promotion, resignation, salary, demotion, dismissal, reprimand, or appointment of a member of a public agency or employee

## **C. PERSONNEL**

**Present:** James R. Guy, Commissioner President  
Eric Colvin, Commissioner  
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner  
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human resources  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 11:25 a.m.-11:27 a.m.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room

Purpose: To consider or discuss the assignment, promotion, resignation, salary, demotion, dismissal, reprimand, or appointment of a member of a public agency or employee

## **D. REAL PROPERTY**

**Present:** James R. Guy, Commissioner President  
Eric Colvin, Commissioner  
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner  
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator

David Weiskopf, County Attorney  
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human resources  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(6) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 11:27 a.m.-11:35 a.m.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room

Purpose: To discuss the disposition of real property

#### **E. PERSONNEL**

**Present:** James R. Guy, President

Eric Colvin, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner

John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator

Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human resources

Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the *Local Government* Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 11:36 a.m.-11:58 a.m.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room

Purpose: To consider or discuss the assignment, promotion, resignation, salary, demotion, dismissal, reprimand, or appointment of a member of a public agency or employee

#### **MOTIONS IN OPEN SESSION**

**MOTION 1:** I move to appoint Ronald Payne, Sr. as alternate to the Board of Appeals, for a partial term to begin October 5, 2021 - June 30, 2024, and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Eric Colvin, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**MOTION 2:** I move to approve the DPWT Director recruitment materials and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

**MOTION 3:** I move to approve the requested salary adjustments effective July 1, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Morgan, O'Connor

## **7. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:01 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on October 19, 2021.

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JB  
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

### **Members present**

Commissioner President James R. Guy

Commissioner Eric Colvin

Commissioner Todd B. Morgan

Commissioner John E. O'Connor

Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator

ALisa Casas, Communications Director, Public Information Office

## **8. PUBLIC HEARING**

### **A. DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT - Public Hearing - Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan Amendment for Property on Tap LLC**

Commissioner President Guy opened the public hearing at 5:32 p.m in the Chesapeake Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

**Present:** William Hunt, Director, Dept. of Land Use and Growth Management

Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Southern Maryland News* on September 17, 2021, and September 24, 2021. This public hearing is for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed development that will be served by public water is in the Charlotte Hall Town Center, a planned growth area.

Commissioner President Guy requested Dr. Bridgett provide the format for the public hearing and open the hearing for public comment.

Public comments were given by:  
Billy Mahaffey, Leonardtown, MD

Dr. Bridgett noted that the record would remain open for public comment for an additional seven days. Commissioner President Guy closed the Public Hearing at approximately 5:39 p.m.

**Members present**

Commissioner President James R. Guy  
Commissioner Eric Colvin  
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan  
Commissioner John E. O'Connor  
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator  
Alisa Casas, Communications Director

Delegation Chairman, Delegate Matt Morgan  
Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Gerald Clark  
Delegate Brian Crosby

**9. JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY AND THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION**, Chesapeake Building, 41770 Baldrige St., Leonardtown, MD

**A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislation**

Commissioner President Guy called the Joint Meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the St. Mary's County Delegation to order at 6:02 p.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Following introductions and opening remarks, David Weiskopf, County Attorney, presented the following 2021 County Legislative Proposals for discussion:

**1. VEHICLE REGISTRATION – EXCEPTION FOR GOLF CARTS** - To request to amend §13- 402(c)(12) and §21-104.5 of the Transportation Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to authorize the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to designate on which county highways a person may operate a golf cart in St. Mary's County and to exempt Golf Carts from Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements in St. Mary's County under certain circumstances (requested by Commissioners Eric Colvin and John O'Connor).

**2. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION – DUTIES LANGUAGE UPDATE** - To amend §29- 106(b)(1) and (2) of the Local Government Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to revise the St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission "Duties" language. (requested by Lori Jennings-Harris, Director of Dept. of Aging and Human Services in conjunction with the Human Relations Commission).

**3. BODY WORN CAMERAS – ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS** - To request to amend §10-402(C)(11) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the *Annotated Code of*

*Maryland* to allow St. Mary's County Animal Control Officers to wear body cameras (requested by Stephen Walker, Director of Dept. of Emergency Services).

**4. POLYGRAPH EXAMINATIONS FOR PARAMEDIC, EMT AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER APPLICANTS** - To request to amend §3-702(b) of the Labor and Employment Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to exclude St. Mary's County Government paramedic and EMT applicants and St. Mary's County Government Emergency Communications Center applicants from prohibition of polygraph examinations. (requested by Stephen Walker, Director of Dept. of Emergency Services and Commissioner John O'Connor).

**5. AUCTIONEER FEES – TAX SALE** - To request to amend §14-813(e)(2) of the Tax - Property Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to amend the allowable expenses for auctioneer fees to be the "actual cost" charged by the auctioneer for each property sold at tax sale in St. Mary's County. (requested by Christine L. Kelly, Treasurer)

**6. DEFINITION OF NEWSPAPER AND NEWSPAPER IN GENERAL CIRCULATION** - To request to amend §1-113 of the General Provisions Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to amend the definition of "newspaper" and "newspaper in general circulation." (requested by David Weiskopf, County Attorney).

**7. MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING AND IMMOBILIZATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY** - To request to add Local Government Article 12 Subtitle 10 of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to include Motor Vehicle Towing and Immobilization on Private Property in St. Mary's County (requested by Commissioner John O'Connor).

**Citizen Request:**

**8. ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – ELECTED MEMBERS – TERM LIMITS** - To request to amend §3-1101(g) of the Education Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* to limit elected members of the St. Mary's Board of Education to three (3) consecutive full four-year terms (requested by Vernon Gray, citizen).

The meeting was opened to public comment; however, no citizen comment was given.

Following closing remarks from Commissioner President Guy and Delegate Morgan, Commissioner President Guy closed the meeting at approximately 7:10 pm.