

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, March 28, 2023)
Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Members present

Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
Jenna Guzman, Communications Director, Public Information Office

Absent: Commissioner President James R. Guy

Commissioner Vice President Colvin called the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at 9:00 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 March 21, 2023, with amendments without the letter.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

2. COMMENDATION

Postponed to a later date.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

I move to adjourn as the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and reconvene as the St. Mary's County Board of Health.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

3. ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Present: Dr. Meenakshi Brewster, Health Officer
Sheriff Steve Hall

Dr. Brewster and Sheriff Hall provided information on the current and emerging drug trends in St. Mary's County. Also discussed were the programs and initiatives used to help reduce substance use and the mental health crisis in St. Mary's County. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey showed that Smoking, Vaping, Marijuana, and Alcohol use are trending down among high school students.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

I move to adjourn as the St. Mary's County Board of Health and reconvene as the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

4. MAIN AGENDA ITEM

A. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - FY2024 Operating - Approval and Execution of the FY2024 Recommended Budget for Public Hearing

MOTION 1: I move to approve the FY2024 Recommended Budget as presented and execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Alderson, Ostrow

Nay: Commissioner Hewitt

MOTION 2: I move to authorize the Finance Department to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 on the Constant Yield Tax Rate.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 3: I move to authorize the Finance Department to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 on the St. Mary's County Fee & Charges increase.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 4: I move to authorize the Finance Department to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 on increasing Hollywood VFD Tax rate to .056.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 5: I move to authorize the Finance Department to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 on the FY2024 Recommended Budget

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

5. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR APRIL 4 AND 18. There will be no meeting of the Commissioners on April 11, 2023.

B. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - FY2024 Heroin Coordinator Grant Application - Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

I move to approve the grant application for the FY2024 Heroin Coordinator Program from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, in the amount of \$59,649 (excluding County funding) and authorize the Commissioner President and Sheriff to execute the related documents and staff to submit electronically.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

C. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - Purchase of Equipment and Furniture using Federally and Locally Forfeited Funds

I move to approve the Sheriff's request for concurrence to purchase signage, furniture, and equipment using Federally and Locally Forfeited Funds.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

D. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - FY2024 Police Accountability, Community and Transparency (PACT) Grant Application - Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

I move to approve the grant application for the FY2024 Police Accountability, Community and Transparency (PACT) Grant, from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, in the amount of \$47,117 and authorize the Commissioner President and Sheriff to execute the related documents and staff to submit electronically.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

E. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - FY24 Sex Offender Compliance and Enforcement in Maryland Grant Application - Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

I move to approve the FY2024 Sex Offender Compliance and Enforcement in Maryland grant application from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, on behalf of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$13,416 and authorize the Commissioner President and Sheriff to execute the related documents and staff to submit electronically.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

F. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - FY2024 Police Recruitment and Retention Grant Application - Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

I move to approve the grant application for FY2024 Police Recruitment and Retention, from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services in the amount of \$32,200 and authorize the Commissioner President and Sheriff to execute the related documents and staff to submit them electronically.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

G. BOARD OF EDUCATION - FY 2023 SB 291 Pass Through Grant Oakville Elementary School Restrooms

I move to approve that the Commissioners of St. Mary's County sign the application for the SB 291 Pass Through Grant for restroom renovations at Oakville Elementary School, as approved by the Board of Education on March 8, 2023, to be submitted to the Interagency Commission on School Construction, in accordance with state procedures.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

H. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - Approval of Nonrecurring Costs to the Maryland State Department of Education

I move to approve the schedule of nonrecurring and other unique one-time costs to the Maryland State Department of Education for FY2024 and authorize the Commissioner vice President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

I. DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS - Cal Ripken Foundation Grant application

I move to approve to have the Recreation and Parks Director submit the online application requesting Cal Ripken Foundation funding in the amount of \$6,500 for the Badges for Baseball program for St. Mary's County and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

J. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - Piney Point Lighthouse and Museum Shoreline Restoration MA-2102

I move to accept the \$1,937,953 grant award from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Emergency Coastal Resilience funding in support of the construction of the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum Shore Erosion project and authorize Commissioner President Guy to sign all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

K. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - 2024 MDOT Priorities Letter

I move to approve the FY 2024 MDOT Transportation Priority Letter and authorize Vice Commissioner President Colvin to sign the St. Mary's County MDOT Transportation Priorities letter and transmit to the Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary Wiedefeld.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

L. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Resolution to amend Ch. 162 of the St. Mary's County Code - Historic Preservation Commission - addition of alternate member

I move to approve and execute the Resolution amending Chapter 162 of the Code of St. Mary's County to add an alternate member to the membership of the St. Mary's County Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

6. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Updates

Present: John Sterling Houser, Assistant County Attorney

MOTION 1: I move to support/support with amendments/oppose HB 239 / SB 382 - Accessory Dwelling Unit Policy Task Force and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of support/support with amendments/opposition to House and Senate Committees for hearings on these bills.

No Vote

MOTION 2: I move to support/support with amendments/oppose HB 332/SB 330 - Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Body Worn Cameras (Body-Worn Camera Appropriation and Financing Act of 2023) and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of support/support with amendments/opposition to House and Senate Committees for hearings on these bills.

No Vote

MOTION 3: I move to support/support with amendments/oppose HB 1196 - Blueprint for Maryland's Future Implementation - Funding and Independent Evaluation - Alterations and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of support/support with amendments/opposition to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

No Vote

MOTION 4: I move to [support/support with amendment/oppose] SB 902 – Labor and Employment - Maryland Healthy Working Families Act - Seasonal Temporary Workers and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of [support/support with amendment/opposition] to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

No Vote

MOTION 5: I move to [support/support with amendment/oppose] HB 1256/SB 803 – Labor and Employment - Payment of Minimum Wage - Tipped Employees and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of [support/support with amendment/opposition] to House and Senate Committees for hearings on these bills.

No Vote

MOTION 6: I move to [support/support with amendment/oppose] HB 1261/SB 838 – Workplace Fraud and Prevailing Wage - Violations – Referrals and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of [support/support with amendment/opposition] to House and Senate Committees for hearings on these bills.

No Vote

MOTION 7: I move to support SB 286 - Department of Veterans Affairs - Burial in State Veterans' Cemeteries - Spouses and Dependents and to approve and authorize Commissioner Vice President to sign letters of support to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 8: I move to [support/support with amendment/oppose] HB 596/SB 511 - Health and Human Services Transportation Improvement Act of 2023 and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign letters of [support/support with amendment/opposition] to House and Senate Committees for hearings on these bills.

No Vote

MOTION 9: I move to support HB 1258/SB 134 - Property Tax Credit for Disabled Veterans - Established and to approve and authorize Commissioner Vice President to sign letters of support to House and Senate Committees for hearings on these bills.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

7. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

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

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

I move to enter into closed session to discuss Real Property, Legal Advice and Personnel.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

8. CLOSED SESSION

A. REAL PROPERTY

Present: Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
James Gotsch, Director, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

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

Time Held: 12:12 p.m. - 12:21 p.m.

Location: Savich Conference Room

Purpose: To discuss property acquisition for St. Mary's County Regional Airport.

B. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
James Gotsch, Director, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation
Buffy Giddens, Deputy County Attorney
Joe Densford, Attorney
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(12) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 12:21 p.m. - 12:35 p.m.

Location: Savich Conference Room

Purpose: To discuss negotiations on the acquisition of real property for FDR Blvd., Phase 3.

C. PERSONNEL

Present: Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric Colvin, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, Deputy County Attorney
Diane Gleissner, Coordinator
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

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

Time Held: 12:35 p.m. - 12:42 p.m.

Location: Savich Conference Room

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

9. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on April 4, 2023.

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator