

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, December 12, 2023)
Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
Jenna Guzma, Communication Director, Public Information Office
Julie Burch, Recorder

1. HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE/RECEPTION, CHESAPEAKE BUILDING, 21770 Baldrige St., Leonardtown

The Commissioners hosted an Open House in the lobby of the Chesapeake Building for citizens and employees.

2. WELCOME

Commissioner President Guy 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 includes the Minutes of December 5, 2023.

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

3. PUBLIC HEARING

A. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES - Public Hearing - Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan proposed Amendment 2024-1

Commissioner President Guy opened the public hearing at 9:08 a.m.

Present: Catherine Pratson

The public hearing is to receive public input on a proposed amendment to the Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan. Notice of the public hearing was published on November 24 and December 1, 2023, in the *Southern Maryland Newspaper*. This ordinance would provide a one-time

opportunity to repay refunded employee pension contributions for certain re-hired SORP participants.

Commissioner President Guy requested David Weiskopf provide the format for the public hearing and open the hearing for public comment.

No public comments were given on this topic.

Mr. Weiskopf closed the public hearing for public comment and noted that the record would remain open for public comment for an additional seven days. Commissioner President Guy closed the public hearing at approximately 9:15 a.m.

4. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDA FOR JANUARY 9, 2024. There are no meetings of the Commissioners on December 19 and 26, 2023 or January 2, 2024.

B. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - FY2025 State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) Application

I move to approve the grant submission for the FY2025 State Aid for Police Protection program, from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, and authorize the Commissioner President and Sheriff to execute the related documents and staff to submit electronically.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

C. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES - Crown Castle Ground Lease Agreement

I move to approve the Ground Lease Agreement between Commissioners of St. Mary's County and Crown Atlantic Company, LLC and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all the related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

D. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - Citizen Broadband Connectivity-2023 Update

Present: Bob Kelly, Director

An update on the county's approach to improving the county's broadband infrastructure was presented. The following topics were discussed: Wireless Broadband access; FASTRAC Chromebook distribution; Affordable Connectivity Program; University of Maryland Extension Partnership; Breezeline, Comcast, and Verizon Fios expansions.

E. DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS- Program Open Space- FY24 Grant Award

I move to approve the FY2024 Program Open Space funding award for the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (\$25,000); the Dog Park Project (\$427,500) and the Skate Park Project (\$765,000) and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

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

F. DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT - Comprehensive Plan Funding

I move to approve the Budget Amendment transfer of \$300,000 from the "Commissioner's Reserve" account to the Department of Land Use and Growth Management's "Other Contract Services" account for Consultant Services to update the St. Mary's County Comprehensive Plan and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all associated documents.

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

G. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES - MD CORPS Service Year Option Grant Award

I move to approve accepting the MD CORPS Service Year Option Grant award in the amount of \$43,440.00 and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

H. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Approve Employment Contract

I move to approve the employment contract for the St. Mary's County Government, Chief, EMS Career Operations and to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related document.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr..
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

I. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Everside Health Center

I move to approve the agreement with Everside and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

5. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

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

6. MEMORIAL CEREMONY - THOMAS BOWLES

The Commissioners presented a Proclamation to the family of Thomas Bowles in honor of his dedicated service to the County while employed at the Department of Public Works and Transportation followed by the unveiling of a plaque in his honor on the Remembrance Wall in the lobby of the Chesapeake Building.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

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

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr., second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

7. CLOSED SESSION

A. PERSONNEL

Present: James R. Guy, President

Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner

Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

David Weiskopf, County Administrator

David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator

Stephanie Harper, MD MPP, Deputy Health Officer for St. Mary's County Health

Department
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 11:59 a.m. - 12:17 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To discuss the assignment or appointment of a member of a public agency.

B. PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(6) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 12:18 p.m. - 12:46 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To hold preliminary discussions concerning the purchase or disposition of real property.

C. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Mike Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(12) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 12:46 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To provide legal advice concerning a lease.

D. LITIGATION

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Mike Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(2) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 1:00 p.m. - 1:09 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To provide an update.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m.
Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on January 9, 2024.

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

9. FY2025 BUDGET WORK SESSION

A. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - FY2025 Budget Work Session Operating

Present: Jeannett Cudmore, Chief Financial Officer
Joyce Sapp, Deputy Director, Finance