

**THE ALCOHOL BEVERAGE BOARD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025 @ 1:00 PM
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM
CHESAPEAKE BUILDING
41770 BALDRIDGE STREET
LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650
MINUTES**

The meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Board of St. Mary's County was held on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 1:00 PM in the County Commissioners Conference Room, Chesapeake Building, Leonardtown, Maryland

Chairman David Willenborg called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Present:

Chairman David Willenborg

Vice Chair Richard Watts

Member Richard Shin

Member Barbara Hill

Tamara Hildebrand, Administrator

Chris Beaver, Attorney

Suzan Dean, Recording Secretary

Kevin Hall, Inspector

Dep. Steve Myers, Alcohol Enforcement Coordinator

Not Present:

Member George Anas

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice-Chair Watts made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Hill; motion carried

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Vice Chairman Watts made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on January 9, 2025, seconded by Member Shin; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Extension of Conditional Approvals**

The Creek – Arthur C. Brinkley and Celeste C. Baird - Requesting 90-day extension of conditional approval of license application.

Arthur Brinkley and Celeste Baird appeared before the Board and were sworn in. Ms. Baird explained that they are requesting another 90-days extension. Ms. Baird stated that they had installed the grease trap but it was not the correct one so they will need to re-install the correct one after the weather gets better. Vice-Chair Watts moved to approve the 90-day extension and was seconded by Member Shin. Motion carried.

BOARD ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. Hildebrand stated that renewal of licenses has started, and that Suzi has returned to work to assist with the process. She also stated that her surgery has been scheduled for the end of March.

ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

For the month of January, Deputy Myers reported:

- 23 tobacco compliance checks – 4 failed, 2 being alcohol retailers
- 13 DUI arrests by the Sheriff's Office/ 8 State Police
- 2 stationary surveillance checks - Abell's Tavern and Merchants Fine Wine and Spirits – no violations
- Park surveillance – no violations
- CAC meeting

BOARD INSPECTOR REPORT

For the month of January, Inspector Hall reported:

- 13 inspections / 3 follow-ups
- MALA and CAC phone meetings
- Covered Administrative Assistant duties when Administrator is absent or busy

ST MARY'S LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION

- Dave Dent updated the Board on what is going on in legislation. There are three bills being introduced for St. Mary's County. The bill that the Board has introduced to increase the fine max to \$2500.00. The other two bills would allow up to three Class B licenses to one owner and changing the quota of Class A licenses for Election District 8. Mr. Dent went on to explain HB 997 is a 3% tax to allow this tax on food and beverages in restaurants and bars in individual jurisdictions. The House and the Senate bills for grocery stores are different in themselves.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Hill made a motion to adjourn at 1:18 pm, seconded by Member Shin; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzan Dean, Recording Secretary

David Willenborg, Chairman