

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, April 8, 2025)

Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Members present

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

Commissioner Vice President Alderson called the 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 April 1, 2025.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

2. PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations were presented for:

- A. National Animal Care & Control Week
- B. Week of the Young Child
- C. National Public Health Week
- D. National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

3. PUBLIC HEARING

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Public Hearing on Disposition of Surplus County-owned Real Property

Commissioner Vice President Alderson opened the public hearing at 9:30 a.m.

Present: John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney
Brandy McKelvey, Paralegal

Notice of the Public Hearing was published on March 21 and 28, 2025. This public hearing is to receive public comments on the disposition of county-owned surplus real property no longer needed for public use.

Commissioner Vice President Alderson requested that David Weiskopf provide the format for the public hearing and open it to public comment.

Public Comments given by:
Jonathan Lara, 45171 Loblolly Court, Tall Timbers, MD

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 Vice President Alderson closed the public hearing at approximately 9:35 a.m.

4. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR APRIL 22 AND 29, 2025. There will no meeting of the Commissioners on April 15.

B. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - Day Reporting Grant modification and conversion of FTE position to TPT position

I move to approve the modification to the Day Reporting Grant (US2548) and the conversion of one (1) Grant Full-Time Offender Re-Entry Case Manager position to (1) Grant Temporary Part Time Hourly Offender Re-Entry Case Manager position and authorize the Commissioner President and Sheriff to execute the related documents.

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

C. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - FY26 Performance Incentive Grant Fund (PIGF) Grant Application - GOCPP

I move to approve the FY26 Performance Incentive Grant Fund (PIGF) Grant Application, from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP), in the amount of \$398,094 and authorize Commissioner President and the Sheriff to execute the related documents and staff to submit electronically.

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

D. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - FY26 GOCPP Gun Violence Reduction Grant (GVRG) Application

I move to approve the FY26 GOCPP Gun Violence Reduction Grant (GVRG) application and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

**E. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - Christmas in April
- Resolution to Waive Landfill Fees**

I move to adopt the Resolution waiving landfill fees for Christmas in April projects associated with the annual program scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2025.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

**F. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - St. Jeromes Creek
Dredge Material Placement (DMP) Site, Easement Agreement Renewal**

I move to approve the St. Jerome's Creek Dredge Material Placement Site Construction Easement Agreement and Budget Amendment in the amount of \$125,000, decreasing the FIN25 Capital Reserve and increasing MA-1101 and authorize the Commissioner Vice President to execute all related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

**G. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - Broadband Service
Expansions, Maryland BEAD Letter of Support, Comcast and Verizon**

MOTION 1: I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the letter of support for Comcast's BEAD submissions to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 2: I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the letter of support for Verizon's BEAD submissions to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

H. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Joint Encroachment Mitigation and Prevention Agreement with NAS Patuxent River

I move to approve the Joint Encroachment Mitigation and Prevention Agreement with Naval Air Station Patuxent River and have the Commissioner President sign all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

I. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - Governor's Office for Children (GOC) FY26 Notice of Based Funding Availability (NOFA)-Local Management Board (LMB)

I move to approve the FY2026 Community Partnership Agreement Notice of Funding Availability Application (NOFA) from Maryland Governor's Office for Children on behalf of St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services in the amount of \$555,627 in State Funds; and \$1,102 in County Funds to allow providers to assist children, families, youth and young adults, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

J. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2026 Senior Rides Program Grant Application

I move to approve the FY2026 Senior Rides Grant Application, Project #MD2605, from the Maryland Department of Transportation: Maryland Transit Administration on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services in the amount of \$35,864 and authorize the Commissioner Vice President to execute the related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

K. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2025 Special Events Revenue and Expenses Budget

I move to approve the increase in revenue estimate and expenses budget for the Special Events hosted by the Department of Aging & Human Services and authorize the Commissioner Vice President to execute related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

**L. DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT - Decision -
ZONE24-0002 - Cusic Properties, 25741 Three Notch Road**

I move to adopt the proposed findings and to amend the 2010 Comprehensive Plan Land Use Map to change the land use designation for a portion of the property from Rural Preservation to Rural Commerce and amend the Zoning Map to change a portion of the property's zoning district from Rural Preservation (RPD) to Rural Commercial Limited (RCL) for the property located at 25741 Three Notch Road, Hollywood and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any related documents.

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

5. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Updates

Present: John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

The following bills were discussed:

Bills Requested by St. Mary's County

HB 561 / SB 623 - St. Mary's County – Public Facilities Bond - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 480 - St. Mary's County – County Plans – Public Sewerage Systems and Water Supply Systems – Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 490 - St. Mary's County – Competitive Bidding – Threshold - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 476 - St. Mary's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class A License Quota - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 460 - St. Mary's County - Vehicle Laws - Prohibition on Roadway Solicitations - Did Not Pass

HB 486 - St. Mary's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Civil Penalty for Sales Violations - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 485 - St. Mary's County- Corrections - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB491 - St. Mary's County - Metropolitan Commission - Discontinuance of Service - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 574 - St. Mary's County - Alcoholic Beverages – Multiple Licensing Plans - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

Other Bills Directly Affecting St. Mary's County

HB 125 - St. Mary's County – Circuit Court Judge – Withdrawn

HB 391 - County Boards of Education – Elections for Members Representing Specific Districts – Alterations – Did Not Pass

HB 864 / SB 620 - St. Mary's County – Judgeships – Circuit Courts – Did Not Pass

Local Bond Initiatives Filed by Delegation

St. Mary's County Family YMCA - Funded \$75,000

Second District VFDRS Solar Panels - Funded \$100,000

St. Mary's County Elks Lodge No. 2092 - Funded \$25,000

St. Mary's County Regional Airport Fuel Capacity Expansion - Funded \$350,000

Other Tracked Bills

HB 6 / SB 143 - State Department of Assessments and Taxation and Department of General Services - Property Appraisal

HB 350 / SB 319 - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2026) - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 351 / SB 320 Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital - Bond Loan of 2025, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2026) - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 352 / SB 321 - Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 1036 / SB 931 - Public Utilities - Generating Stations - Generation and Siting (Renewable Energy Certainty Act) - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 1364 / SB 894 - Office of Social Equity - Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund – Modifications - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 504 - Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act - Returned Passed Awaiting Governor's signature

HB 503 - Housing Development Act – Did Not Pass

6. 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 Personnel and Litigation.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

7. CLOSED SESSION

A. PERSONNEL

Present: Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Catherine Pratson, Director, Human Resources Department
Sheriff Steven Hall
Major Clay Safford
Captain Shawn Moses
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

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

Time Held: 11:39 a.m. - 11:44 a.m.

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

B. PERSONNEL

Present: Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Catherine Pratson, Director, Human Resources Department
Raymond Bivens, Director, Recreation and Parks
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

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

Time Held: 11:44 a.m. - 11:53 a.m.

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: Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator

David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Catherine Pratson, Director, Human Resources Department
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 11:53 a.m. - 12:13 a.m.

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. LITIGATION

Present: Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
John Houser, Deputy County Attorney
Vanetta Van Cleave, Chief Financial Officer
Elton Darby, Attorney
Roxana Pierce, Attorney
Sara Aguiniga, Attorney
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(2) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 11:39 a.m. - 11:44 a.m.

Purpose: To discuss strategy in collective bargaining or litigation.

MOTION IN OPEN SESSION

I move to approve the Sheriff's Office promotional request for the position of Information Systems Analytics Manager.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow
Not Present at Vote: Commissioners Guy, Colvin

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on April 22, 2025.

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator