

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, July 28, 2015)

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Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Tom Jarboe
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Commissioner John E. O'Connor
Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

1. WELCOME

Commissioner President Guy called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Chesapeake meeting room.

Approval of Minutes

I move to approve the minutes of July 21, 2015 as approved.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

2. RECOGNITION

A Proclamation: to John Payne on the occasion of his Retirement

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDA FOR AUGUST 4, 2015.

B. DEPT. OF RECREATION AND PARKS - Budget Amendment to Close Out Derelict Boat Removal Grant (PL1402)

I move to approve the budget amendment closing out the Derelict Boat Removal grant #PL1402 and returning unspent funds in the amount of \$10,000 to the FIN16 Capital Reserve, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners President Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

C. DEPT. OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - FY2016 MOA with CSM for SBDC Services

I move to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the County and the College of Southern Maryland on behalf of Department of Economic Development for the Small Business Development Center's services in the amount of \$37,000 which is consistent with the FY2016 approved budget, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related document.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

D. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Director's

Recommended FY2016 Fee-in-Lieu of the Purchase of TDR's

Commissioner Hewitt suggested the possibility of developing a TDR bank so that the available TDRs can be easily identified by citizens who want to purchase them.

I move to approve the Fee-in-Lieu of the purchase of Transferrable Development Rights in the amount of \$7,200 for Fiscal Year 2016

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

E. DEPT. OF AGING AND HUMAN SERVICES - FY2016 Senior Rides Notification of Grant Award

I move to approve the Maryland Senior Rides Program Notification of Grant Award, project MD1605, from the State of Maryland Department of Transportation on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging and Human Services to provide transportation services for low to moderate income seniors in the amount of \$31,234, and the related budget amendment to increase the project budget, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

F. DEPT. OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2015 State Deficiency Notification of Grant Award

I move to approve the FY2015 State Deficiency Notification of Grant Award, project MD1528, from the Maryland Department of Aging on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging and Human Services to supplement the Older Americans Act programs (one-time-only) in the amount of \$7,186, and the related budget amendment to establish the project budget, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

G. ST. MARY'S COUNTY HEALTH DEPT - Introduce Environmental Health Fee Increase Proposal and Request Scheduling of Public Hearing

I move that a public hearing be scheduled on the proposed Environmental Health fee increase as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioner President James R Guy, Commissioner Tom Jarboe, Commissioner Todd B Morgan

Nay: Commissioners Hewitt, O'Connor

4. PRESENTATION

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY SITTING AS THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Present: Dr. Meenakshi Brewster, Health Officer

Dr. Brewster discussed topics of concern this time of year, such as tick-borne infections, school vaccinations, monitoring of public beaches, the Health Department's role in infectious disease control, and priorities of the Healthy St. Mary's Partnership community organization. The Health Department is progressing towards National Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board and anticipates accreditation by late 2017.

5. MAIN AGENDA ACTION ITEM

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Proposed Amendment of Section 217-1 of the Code of St. Mary's County, Maryland (National Electrical Code) and Request to Schedule Public Hearing

Present: George Sparling, County Attorney

Don Haskins, Chairman, Electrical Examiners Board

The National Electrical Code (NEC) is revised and amended from time to time and is then adopted as the St. Mary's County Electrical Code. The St. Mary's County Board of Electrical Examiners requested that the Ordinance be amended to extend the time of the effective date of revisions to six months after the later of NEC's publication or effective date. This will allow time for licensed electricians to participate in 10-week course on content of new and revised editions. A public hearing is requested for the proposed amendment.

I move that the Office of the County Attorney be authorized to schedule a public hearing on the proposed amendment of Section 217-1 of the Code of St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Michael L Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Jarboe, Morgan

Nay: Commissioners Hewitt, O'Connor

6. COMMISSIONER'S TIME

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

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

I move to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner John E. O'Connor

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel

Present: Commissioner James R. Guy, President
 Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
 Commissioner Tom Jarboe
 Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
 Commissioner John E. O'Connor
 Dr. Rebecca Bridgett, County Administrator
 Ms.Sue Sabo, Chief of Staff, HR Director
 Ms.Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant

Authority: Local Government Article Section 9-512(a)(1)

Time Held: 11:14 am – 11:34 am

8. TOUR OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The Commissioners visited the Clarke's Landing Road widening site then proceeded to the Airport for a tour of projects at that site.

9. RECESS

10. PUBLIC HEARING

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION – Ordinance to Regulate the Removal of Frozen Precipitation from Public Sidewalks and Streets

Commissioner Guy opened the public hearing at 6:30

Present: George Erichsen, Director, Dept. of Public Works & Transportation

Notice of Public Hearing was posted in the Enterprise Newspaper on July 10 and 17, 2015. During the winter of 2014/2015 back-to-back snow storms deposited an unusual amount of snow/ice on the sidewalks along Great Mills Road resulting in citizens walking in the roadway and causing safety issues. Mr. Erichsen reviewed the costs incurred by the County to remove the snow and ice. While the State installs the sidewalks, the County is responsible for snow removal on sidewalks that are within the State right-of-way. The proposed Ordinance would require the owner of the property adjacent to a public sidewalk to remove the frozen precipitation and prohibits residents from shoveling or plowing snow/ice back onto a public street or public sidewalk.

Commissioner Guy opened the public hearing for public comment.

Public Comments (*Comments as noted below are intended as highlights of testimony given and are not verbatim*).

Keith Harless, 23225 Mirfield Dr., Lexington Park, MD 20650

Mr. Harless noted there are large areas along Great Mills Road that are not directly in front of a business or home that must be cleared and asked who was responsible for them. He suggested the Commissioners consider developing a reserve fund specifically to pay contractors to clean the sidewalks. He expressed concern with the potential lack of enforcement and lack of consistency in enforcing the Ordinance. He indicated this is a safety issue and a public service, so maybe the next step should be to collect funds and save for sidewalk snow removal. He indicated he does not believe this Ordinance is going to solve the problem..

Mike Schwartz, 21310 Great Mills Rd., Lexington Park, MD 20653

Mr. Schwartz expressed displeasure with the County expecting individuals to clean sidewalks in front of their business/residence especially after the State plows snow from the road onto them. Suggested the State should develop an attachment to clean sidewalks as they plow the roads. He stated he does clean sidewalks outside of his business, but why should he have to clean those in the State road right-of-way. Suggested the cost estimates presented are there for the sake of drama – not reality. He is opposed to the amendment.

Commissioner Guy closed the public hearing for public comment and noted the record will remain open for comments for an additional 10 days. He closed the public hearing and adjourned the Commissioners of St. Mary's County meeting at 7:44 pm.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on _____

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)