

**Friday, February 20, 2004**

**Present:** Commissioner President Thomas F. McKay  
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.  
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley  
George G. Forrest, County Administrator  
Kate Mauck, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m.

**DISCUSSION/DECISION RE PROPOSED SENIOR TAX CAP**

Present: John Norris, County Attorney Elaine Kramer, Finance  
Director Gene Carter, Director, Office on Aging Jan Norris, County Treasurer

Staff provided an overview of the proposed Senior Tax Cap issue, outlining that a public hearing was held by the Board of County Commissioners regarding the amendment of Chapter 267 of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County to allow a property tax credit to senior citizens. A public hearing was properly advertised on January 30, February 1, February 4, and February 8, 2004. To become effective, the State must grant the County authority to grant this credit.

Discussion took place concerning the estimated impact of extending the current tax credit program to persons aged 65 and over, trustee issues, eligibility requirements established by the State, lack of a sunset clause, the number of individuals that would potentially participate, surviving spouse issues, recapture issues, alternative ways that seniors impact the community economically, application of an income cap at some level, potential loss of future revenues to the County, and changes to the Ordinance that were implemented per direction of the Board of County Commissioners.

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to adopt and sign the Ordinance to amend Chapter 267 of the Code of Public Local Laws to allow a property tax credit to senior citizens of St. Mary's County. Commissioner President McKay, Commissioner Dement, and Commissioner Jarboe voted for the motion. Commissioner Mattingly and Commissioner Raley voted against. Motion carried 3:2.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Minutes Approved by the  
Board of County Commissioners on \_\_\_\_\_

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Kate Mauck, Senior Administrative Coordinator  
to the Board of County Commissioners