

**ST. MARYS COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
GOVERNMENTAL CENTER  
Tuesday, May 20, 2008**

**Present:** Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell  
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.  
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley  
John Savich, County Administrator  
Betty Jean Pasko, Sr. Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner President Russell called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER**

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Check Register for checks dated May 20, 2008, as submitted.**

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to adopt the minutes of the Commissioners meeting of May 13, 2008, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

**PROCLAMATION**

**National Public Works Week, May 18 24, 2008**, presented to George Erichsen, Director, Department of Public Works and Transportation.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

1. Draft Agendas for May 27 and June 3, 2008
2. **St. Marys County Public Schools** (*Dr. Charles Ridgell, Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction;*  
*Rhonda K. Meleen, Accountant, Restricted Funds*)

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve the Board of Educations FY2008 Categorical Request for the Judith P. Hoyer Child Care and Education Center, approved by the Board of Education on April 30, 2008, and to sign the letter evidencing this action. Motion carried 5-0.**

**3. Circuit Court** *(Theresa Weeks, Senior Legal Assistant)*

Presented by the County Administrator after Item #5.

**4. Office of the County Attorney** *(Liz Passarelli, Real Property Manager; Travis Strickland, Property Rights Specialist, SMECO)*

*(Phil Rollins, Dir., RP&CS)*

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the SMECO Easement Agreement for a ten foot right-of-way for underground/overhead electric distribution lines for the property known as the Clubhouse at Wicomico Shores Golf Course. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the SMECO Easement Agreement for a ten foot right-of-way, including a special agreement for a twenty foot easement for a pole, for the purpose of running a new underground/overhead distribution line along the northbound side of MD Route 5 from Maypole Road to Lawrence Avenue in Leonardtown, replacing the motion approved on April 15, 2008, for the same project. Motion carried 5-0.**

**5. County Administration** *(John Savich, County Administrator)*

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Employment Contract for the new position of Human Services Director and the associated Budget Amendment for the Director of Human Services and the Mental Health Coordinator, Grade 8, to be funded effective June 2, 2008. Motion carried 4-1 (Jarboe). Mr. Savich announced that the employment contract is with Bennett Connelly.**

**Circuit Court** *(presented by John Savich, County Administrator, on behalf of Ms. Weeks)*

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to accept the Cooperative Reimbursement Incentive Funds in the amount of \$968 and to**

**approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related Budget Amendment. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL**

Present: Sabrina J. Hecht, Chief of Staff

On March 11, 2008, the BOCC approved the creation of a Department of Human Services and a Human Services Council. The St. Marys County Human Services Council is being formed to provide recommendations to the BOCC and to oversee collaborative efforts among the Department of Human Services and other county human service agencies.

As listed on the resolution, the council shall consist of a minimum of eighteen members, including representation from various Government departments, agencies, organizations and service recipients. During the presentation, Commissioner Jarboe advocated including citizen recreation representation on the council. Additionally, Commissioner Dement questioned what non-profit agencies will be represented. It was noted that the resolution provides minimal core representation requirements and the actual membership has not yet been determined. There can be additional members, but it was recommended that the council remain at a manageable and effective size. It was clarified that the councils by-laws will provide more specific guidelines and address rules, such as relative to ex-officio membership and voting.

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and sign the Resolution for the purpose of establishing the St. Marys County Human Services Council. Motion carried 3-2 (Commissioners Jarboe and Dement voted no).**

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION: ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION SERVICE AWARD, HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH PROCLAMATION, AND ANNUAL REPORT**

Present: Hal Willard, Chair  
Teresa Wilson, Historic Preservation Planner

Ms. Carol L. Moody was presented the Annual Historic Preservation Service Award. Ms. Moody has been the volunteer archivist at the St. Marys County Historical Society for nine years.

The Historic Preservation Month Proclamation was presented to Mr. Willard and Ms. Wilson. This Place Matters is the theme for National Historic Preservation Month 2008, co-sponsored by St. Marys County and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The Annual Report update high-lighted:

- Encouraging owners to seek historical designation to take advantage of tax credits available for renovation
- Locating family cemeteries, inputting data in database
- Examined the Revolving Fund Program (used to purchase and resell historic properties to owners that will preserve the properties)

- Presenting programs to foster interest in local history
- Working with LU&GM to revise proposed text amendments to protect historic roads (presented at the May 13, 2008 BOCC meeting)
- Close to finalizing Goin Down the County: An Architectural Journey through Saint Marys County; in the process of selecting a cover. Once published, a copy will be placed at the libraries and copies will be made available for sale.

Additionally there was discussion about how to register a tree as historic and how to get involved with the Historic Preservation Commission. The commission meets the fourth Thursday of each month in the LU&GM area and the public is welcome to attend.

## **COMMISSIONERS TIME**

The Commissioners highlighted upcoming events and events attended over the past week and personal interest items.

## **MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Real Property Acquisition matters, specifically, property for public facilities. Motion carried 5-0.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### Real Property Acquisition

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President  
 Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement  
 Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
 Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.  
 Commissioner Daniel H. Raley  
 John Savich, County Administrator  
 Christy Chesser, County Attorney  
 Sabrina Hecht, Chief of Staff  
 Liz Passarelli, Real Property Manager  
 Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation, Parks and Community Services  
 Betty Jean Pasko, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11  
 Time Held: 10:20 am 10:45 am  
 Subject Discussed: Potential property for public facilities.

Commissioner Jarboe was absent for the remainder of the meeting and for the business visits.

**PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SHERIFFS OFFICE  
RETIREMENT PLAN DISABILITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS (AMENDMENT  
8)**

Present: Sue Sabo, HR Director and Plan Administrator

The Public Hearing commenced at 11:30 am in Room 14 of the Potomac Building (Governmental Center). Ms. Sabo provided a brief introduction and stated for the record that the public hearing was advertised in the May 9 and 16, 2008 editions of the Enterprise newspaper. An in depth overview of the changes was provided to the BOCC on May 6, 2008.

The following Summary of Proposed Change was reviewed by Ms. Sabo:

Initial line of duty disability benefit will be 50%  
Currently at 33 1/3%  
Brings in line with most surrounding municipalities

Participants must apply for Social Security Disability within three months of retirement to be considered for a catastrophic disability.  
Social Security Disability criteria is more stringent than our current policy  
Project it will reduce the number of catastrophic disabilities

If Social Security Disability is awarded, participant would receive a catastrophic disability benefit (needs to done within three months of retirement)  
Benefit is 66 2/3%  
Would be retroactive up to one year

Additionally the proposed change includes some minor housekeeping items; i.e., clarifications required by the plan attorney.

Upon completion of the ten-day open record period and review of any comments received, it is anticipated the proposal will be brought back to the BOCC for a final decision on June 10, 2008. The final approval will include the pension enhancement, which was included in the recommended budget, to increase the benefit for the pension plan from 2% to 2.5% for the accrual rate as well as the changes to disability retirement benefits; public hearings will have been conducted for both.

It was clarified that this proposal pertains to sworn police officers and correctional officers.

The Public Hearing was opened for public testimony at 11:38 am by Commissioner President Russell. There were no names on the public hearing sign-in sheet and no one presented public testimony. Commissioner President Russell closed the public hearing at 11:38 am and set the 10-day open record period for submitting written comments.



## **ADJOURNMENT**

This portion of the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

**Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to adjourn.  
Motion carried 4-0.**

## **BUSINESS VISITS**

Coordinated by Department of Economic and Community Development, the following St. Marys County Businesses were visited at the following approximate times:

2:00 - 2:50 p.m.	<b>TSA (Technology Security Associates, Inc.)</b> 46915 South Shangri-La Drive, Lexington Park
3:00 - 3:50 pm	<b>Serge Performance Cycles</b> 21540 Great Mills Rd., Lexington Park
4:00 - 4:50 pm	<b>Imagine One Technology &amp; Management, Ltd.</b> 46660 Corporate Drive, Suite 101, Lexington Park

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Jean Pasko, Sr. Admin. Coordinator