

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Wednesday, April 11, 1979

Present: Commissioner George R. Aud, President
Commissioner Richard D. Arnold
Commissioner Ford L. Dean
Commissioner Larry Millison
Commissioner David F. Sayre
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Judith A. Mullins, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the County Commissioners' meeting of April 4, 1979 were read and corrected. Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to approve the minutes as corrected. All Commissioners voted in favor.

ENCUMBRANCE VOUCHERS

Present: Harris Sterling, Director of Finance

Mr. Sterling presented the encumbrance vouchers for the Commissioners' review and approval. Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Millison, to approve payment of the bills as submitted. All Commissioners voted in favor.

FIFTH DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE

Present: James Raley, St. Mary's Public Schools

The referenced individuals presented the Site Plan for the Fifth District Elementary School Site and requested permission from the Commissioners to utilize the natural ravine on the county's property as a storm water management pond which is required by the Department of Natural Resources. After discussion, the Commissioners gave their concurrence to this request and stated they would grant an easement for the project.

Further, Mr. Raley stated that State Highway Administration is requiring Public Schools to have curbing constructed in front of the county-owned property for a deceleration lane at the Fifth District Elementary School site and requested the Commissioners' approval. The Commissioners gave their concurrence to this request.

In closing, Mr. Raley advised that his office would submit the appropriate easement documents for the Commissioners' signatures.

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JAMES CURTIS

COMPLETION OF SIX-MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD

By way of a memorandum dated April 10, 1979, the Personnel Officer stated that James Curtis, Maintenance Mechanic, Office of Public Housing received a satisfactory evaluation from his supervisor upon completion of his six-month probationary period, and therefore has recommended that he be given permanent status. Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean, to grant permanent status to James Curtis. All Commissioners voted in favor.

DORTHEA McCONNELL

COMPLETION OF SIX-MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD

By way of a memorandum dated April 10, 1979, the Personnel Officer stated that Dorthea McConnell, Communications Clerk I, Office of Civil Defense, received a satisfactory evaluation from her supervisor upon completion of her six-month probationary period, and therefore has recommended that she be given permanent status. Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean, to grant permanent status to Dorthea McConnell. All Commissioners voted in favor.

CLEARINGHOUSE PROJECT NO. 79-3-1022

ST. MARY'S RIVER FISHING LAKE

The County Administrator presented the referenced clearinghouse project and recommended that it be forwarded to the State with the comment that it is not inconsistent with this agency's plans, programs or objectives. The Commissioners gave their concurrence.

CLEARINGHOUSE PROJECT NO. 79-CHU-14

STATE-OWNED REAL PROPERTY (CHANGE IN USE)

(BOYS VILLAGE PROPERTY)

The County Administrator presented the referenced clearinghouse project and recommended that it be forwarded to the State with the comment that it is not inconsistent with this agency's plans, programs or objectives. The Commissioners gave their concurrence.

DISPOSITION OF GRANT ITEMS AND AGREEMENT

LEXINGTON PARK RESCUE SQUAD VEHICLE

Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Millison, to sign the Disposition of Grant Items and Agreement for the rescue vehicle for the Lexington Park Rescue Squad. All Commissioners voted in favor.

NOTIFICATION OF GRANT AWARD
COMMISSION ON AGING TITLE III-C GRANT

The County Administrator presented the Notification of Grant Award for the Commission on Aging Title III-C Nutrition Project in the amount of \$71,000. Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to authorize Commissioner President Aud to sign said NGA. All Commissioners voted in favor.

AMERICAN LEGION
REQUEST FOR PROPERTY

The County Administrator presented correspondence from the American Legion seeking to acquire a small parcel of land on which to construct a post home and requesting a meeting with the County Commissioners to discuss the possibility of obtaining a long term lease on property owned by the County in the rear of the Leonardtown Armory. The County Administrator recommended, and the Commissioners concurred, that the request be forwarded to the County Attorney for legal comment regarding the use of public land for this type of activity, and if a favorable comment is received from the Attorney, to arrange a meeting with American Legion representatives concerning this matter.

ENERGY CONSERVATION COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The County Administrator advised that the referenced Committee has met and will continue to meet with the League of Women Voters and some time in May will submit a list to the Commissioners setting forth practical suggestions for the conservation of energy in public buildings. Also involved is a current-use study so that conservation efforts can be measured.

PARKING SPACES FOR HANDICAPPED

Commissioner Dean stated that he has noticed that the parking spaces at the Governmental Center designated for the handicapped are often being used by others and suggested that the employees be reminded that these spaces are to be used by those that need them. In addition, Commissioner Sayre suggested that signs be placed in front of the parking spaces so that the spaces are more visible.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Present: Walter Raum, Chairman
Oran Wilkerson

The referenced members of the Environmental Committee appeared before the Commissioners to give a briefing of the various activities of the Committee. Mr. Raum stated that the Committee is in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners and some of the projects that have been reviewed are the Steuart Pier Extension

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and the Steuart Tank Farm Expansion. Projects that are currently being reviewed are: marine sanitation devices, bulkhead at Colonial Beach as it impinges on the Potomac River, and the sewage mound systems.

During discussion, Commissioner Sayre recommended that the Environmental Committee look into the possibility of a fish hatchery for rockfish at the St. Mary's River Watershed project. Another suggestion, from Commissioner Dean, was for the Committee to look into the cutoff of funds that had been appropriated for the research of causes for the disappearance of the various grasses in our waterways.

Mr. Raum advised that he would present these suggestions at the next Committee meeting and report back to the Commissioners with the result of their findings.

PUBLIC HOUSING COORDINATOR

Present: William Butler, Public Housing Coordinator

At the request of the Commissioners, Mr. Butler appeared before the Commissioners to discuss his resignation from the position of Public Housing Coordinator to be effective June 8, 1979. The Commissioners expressed their and the community's appreciation of Mr. Butler's efforts in the Housing Programs and inquired whether he would reconsider his decision to resign.

Mr. Butler advised that as stated in the text of his letter, his reasons for resigning are personal and too complex to enumerate. He stated that if by June 8 there appears to be no one to fill this position, he would remain until someone was hired unless something occurred that would prevent him from doing so.

The Commissioners again thanked Mr. Butler for all his efforts and wished him well for the future.

Therefore, in light of Mr. Butler's resignation, Commissioners unanimously agreed to direct the County Administrator to begin the normal county hiring procedure and advertise for the position of Public Housing Coordinator. The Commissioners will discuss the composition of the Selection Committee for this position at next week's meeting.

PRESS CONFERENCE

Present: Jack Kershaw, Enterprise
Ingrid Buehler, Beacon
Dave Fox, WKIK

The regular monthly press conference was held at this time. A tape of the conference is on file in the Commissioners' office.

(Commissioner Millison left meeting - 1:00 p.m.)

COMMISSION ON AGING TITLE V GRANT APPLICATION

Present: Mrs. Agnes C. McGaharn, Senior Services Coordinator

Mrs. McGaharn presented and reviewed the Commission on Aging Title V Grant Application for a Senior Center for the project period September 1, 1977 to July 1, 1979 indicating estimated total project cost at \$4,147 (\$1,037, non-federal contribution and \$3,110 Title V funds requested).

After review, Commissioner Dean moved seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to authorize Commissioner President Aud to sign said Grant Application for Title V. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

In closing, Mrs. McGaharn requested that because of possible future available federal funding for renovations to senior centers, if the Commissioners would keep Commission on Aging in mind when public facilities are turned over to the County.

BILL FOR DAMAGED VEHICLE

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

Mr. Norris advised the Commissioners that during the county snow removal in Patuxent Park, Dean Construction Company damaged a vehicle owned by Mr. Verez and therefore recommended payment to Bell Motor Company in the amount of \$83.45, and that the voucher be made payable to Bell Motor Company and the owner of the vehicle.

Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to approve payment in the amount of \$83.45 for repair of the vehicle owned by Mr. Verez. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: John Norris, County Engineer
Joseph E. Bell, II, County Attorney

The Commissioners agreed to meet in Executive Session in order to discuss a matter of litigation (St. Mary's Industrial Park and South Potomac Shores.) The Session was held from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

ST. CLEMENT ISLAND SHORE EROSION CONTROL PROJECT

Present: Michael Warring, Engineer
Delegate Michael Sprague
Optimist Club Members

Mr. Warring engineer for the referenced project displayed plans depicting the work to be done at St. Clements Island for shore erosion control. He stated that the project consists of constructing a 700 foot stone revetment and dredging of the channel on the landing side of the island. \$500,000 is the the State budget for this year

and Mr. Warring stated that it will take another \$275,000 from the State to complete the project. Delegate Sprague stated that the Tri-County Council had advised Governor Hughes that the Island is one of the primary concerns of tourism for Southern Maryland and that the additional funds are needed to protect the Island.

In closing, Mr. Warring stated that he will be visiting the site tomorrow, April 12 with the Corps of Engineers to view the project and discussed the needed repairs. In addition, he stated there will be a Wetlands Hearing at the Governmental Center on April 24 on this project.

DRAINAGE PROBLEM

HEWITT ROAD

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

Commissioner Dean advised Mr. Norris that he received a telephone call from a couple that lives on Hewitt Road across from Chancellors Run Road concerning the drainage problem on Hewitt Road in front of their property. He stated that it was the County Engineer's opinion that the problem is that there is inadequate drainage along Hewitt Road and there is no place for the water to go from the drainage system that exists there. Mr. Norris had indicated that the drainage swale could be constructed at the time of reconstruction of Chancellors Run Road, and Commissioner Dean inquired whether the swale could be constructed prior to the construction of Chancellors Run Road.

Mr. Norris stated that it would aggravate the problem to construct a swale on just a portion of the road and the improvement should be done for the entire length.

In conclusion, the Commissioners requested Mr. Norris to visit the site again to try to reach a short-term solution.

TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Present: Claude Jarboe
Ed Curley
Al Kessler
Murray Jackson
Webster Bell
George Sparling, Sr.

The referenced members of the Taxpayers' Association appeared before the Commissioners to present their comments on certain aspects of the FY 79-80 Budget as presented to the Commissioners at last week's meeting for the following departments: State's Attorney, Board of Education, Recreation and Parks and Walden Counseling Center.

The Commissioners thanked them for their presentation and advised that they would keep their comments in mind.

REZONING DECISION DISCUSSION
CASE NO. 78-218 - HERBERT G. TICE

Present: Frank Gerred, Director, Land Use and Development

(Commissioner Arnold disqualified himself from the discussion since he did not participate in the hearing because of possible conflict of interest.)

Having conducted a public hearing on March 7, 1979, on the application of Herbert G. Tice to have approximately .990 acres of property, located on Md. Rt. 245 near its intersection with Old Three Notch Road, Sixth Election District, rezoned from R-1, Rural Residential, to C-2 Commercial, the Commissioners commenced discussion.

After discussion, Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to submit the findings of fact (as prepared and submitted by Commissioner Dean) to the County Attorney for preparation of the appropriate Resolution granting rezoning from R-1 to C-2 based on a mistake in the original zoning. Three Commissioners present voted in favor. (Prior to leaving the meeting, Commissioner Millison stated he was in favor of the rezoning request.)

CEDAR POINT LIGHTHOUSE

Commissioner Dean called attention to a pending clearinghouse project of which the Cedar Point Lighthouse is one of three federally declared surplus properties. Commissioner Dean suggested, with concurrence of the other Commissioners, that the County respond that although we cannot afford the maintenance and repair of the Cedar Point Lighthouse, we would be happy to express an interest on behalf of other public groups such as Maryland Historical Trust.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN - CETA

The Public Service Employment Program requires the County to have an established Affirmative Action Plan in the administration of the CETA Program. The Commissioners reviewed a proposed Affirmative Action Plan submitted by the Personnel Officer and after review, Commissioner Sayre moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean, to approve said Plan. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I - VACANCY

The Commissioners reviewed memorandum dated April 11, 1979 from the Personnel Officer relative to the above-referenced vacancy until the completion of FY 79-80 budget decisions.

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LAND ACQUISITION - STATE PARKS

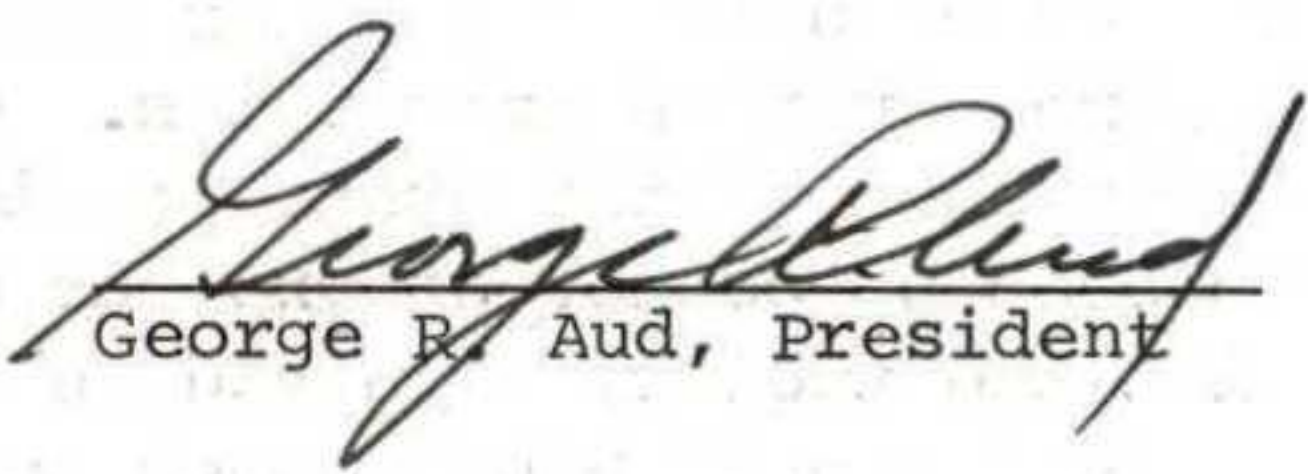
Relative to previous discussions and correspondence concerning the state's acquisition of land for parks, Commissioner Dean suggested the possibility of a meeting with representative of the Department of Natural Resources and the County Commissioners in order to discuss the Park Program. The Commissioners gave their concurrence to this suggestion and Commissioner Dean advised that he would make the necessary arrangements.

COURTHOUSE RECORDS

The Commissioners reviewed correspondence from Historical Society representative relative to the preservation of old courthouse records and requesting authorization to photostat a copy of the records of Ben Tippett, previous county surveyor. The Commissioners gave their concurrence with the photostating of the records and directed County staff to work with the Historical Society relative to other requests in the correspondence.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Approved,


George R. Aud, President