

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Wednesday, May 16, 1979

Present: George R. Aud, President
Richard D. Arnold, Commissioner
Ford L. Dean, Commissioner
Larry Millison, Commissioner
David F. Sayre, Commissioner
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Alice V. Bailey, Recorder

(The meeting was called to order at 8:55 a.m.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

Commissioner Dean made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Commissioner Aud. All Commissioners present voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Millison was not present during the motion, but did attend the executive session. Commissioners returned at 10:10 a.m.

READING OF MINUTES

The reading of the minutes were delayed until the next scheduled meeting of the Board on May 24th, 1979, due to the fact that they were not prepared in time for presentation, due to illness of the Recording Secretary.

COMMENDATION AWARDS FOR MARY RUTH HORTON AND ERVA DAVIS
RECREATION AND PARKS

Present: John Baggett, Director of Recreation and Parks

Mr. Baggett stated that Mrs. Mary Ruth Horton and Mrs. Erva Davis had received awards from the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association for their outstanding contributions in the field of Recreation and Parks. He requested that the Commissioners sign a commendation for each of these individuals acknowledging the award from the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association. At this point the Commissioners affixed their signatures as requested.

STORAGE FACILITY AT THE FIFTH DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Present: John V. Baggett, Director, Recreation and Parks

Mr. Baggett stated that he was requesting authorization from the Board to file a grant application and project agreement under the program Open Space to apply for funds to include a recreation storage building to be located at the Fifth District Elementary School.

After discussion, Commissioner Dean made motion to authorize the President of the Board to execute the application and project agreement under program Open Space to apply for funds to construct a recreation storage facility at the Fifth District Elementary School. Seconded by Commissioner Arnold. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

AGREEMENT BOARD OF EDUCATION, RECREATION AND PARKS AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR LEASING OF LAND IN FIFTH DISTRICT FOR PLACEMENT OF STORAGE FACILITY AND WALK WAY

Present: John Baggett, Director Recreation and Parks

Mr. Baggett presented an Agreement by and between the Board of Education of St. Mary's County, the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Board of County Commissioners, whereby the county would have a ninety-nine year lease, renewable for an additional ninety-nine years for the land where the storage facility building would be located at the Fifth District Elementary School Site as well as the walk way.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to authorize the President of the Board of County Commissioners to execute the Agreement by and between the above named parties, contingent upon the County Attorney's review and approval. Seconded by Commissioner Arnold. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

OPTION TO PURCHASE LAND - SIXTH DISTRICT PARK - GRANTORS WALTER B. DORSEY, ET AL

Present: John V. Baggett, Director Recreation and Parks

Mr. Baggett stated that the County Commissioners had directed him to try and locate a suitable parcel of land in the Sixth Election District for the placement of a County park. He stated that he had reviewed two separate parcels and that the Option to Purchase he was

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presenting to the Commissioners was in his opinion the best suited for the purposes intended. He stated that there were two parcels that were contiguous to each other. Mr. Baggett stated that this property is located on Route 245 and that the property in question has a large amount of road frontage, has 30 to 40 acres of cleared land in addition to the timber and the land is almost perfect for the uses proposed, and that most of the land can be worked in some fashion or the other. This Option to Purchase is for a period of 90 days which will give the County an opportunity to see if the property will appraise out to an acceptable price. After discussion Commissioner Dean made a motion to sign the Option Agreement by and between John R. Dorsey, Walter B. Dorsey and Dorothy Dorsey, Parties of the First Part and the Board of County Commissioners to purchase under a 90 day option land located in the Sixth Election District for the purpose of a County park. Seconded by Commissioner Sayre. Commissioner Aud abstained from voting due to the fact that John Quade had helped in the negotiation of the option with the Dorseys and that Mr. Quade was associated with Tidewater Realty and Mr. Aud has an association. The vote was called for and all Commissioners voted in the affirmative.

Commissioner Millison requested Mr. Baggett to convey unto the Board of Recreation and Parks that in the event a park was located on the land set out in the Option Agreement that the County Commissioners be allowed to name said park. Mr. Baggett stated that he would inform the Recreation and Parks Board of his request.

SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE ST. JOSEPH'S RECREATION CENTER, INC.

Present: John Wooten

Mr. Wooten appeared before the Commissioners to obtain financial assistance for the Summer Nutrition Program. He stated that the program last year was a pilot program and was very successful. In fact, Charles and Calvert Counties have initiated a similar program styled from the St. Mary's program. Mr. Wooten stated that the entire cost of the project would be \$11,323 of which he was requesting funding from the County in the amount \$2,887.00. After discussion by the Commissioners, Mr. Wooten was informed that hopefully they would be in a position to render a decision within a week or so.

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POINT LOOKOUT STATE PARK

Present: John William Quade, Delegate
Frank Gerred, Director Planning and Zoning

Mr. Quade appeared before the Commissioners to express concerns on his part, as well as those of persons that had contacted him. The primary concern is that the Master Plan for the Park has not been updated and when he contacted the state officials they did state that they would give him copies of what they had, but in his opinion this should have been on a on-going basis, not piecemeal. The other concern was that under the Master Plan for the park the state officials were not abiding by the Zoning Ordinance of St. Mary's County. Mr. Quade stated that he thought that the state should abide by our rules and regulations just as the private citizen is made to do. There was discussion as to the points of sovereign immunity by the state. This is to be given to the County Attorney and the Attorney General for clarification. Also, as to the question -- The County has no authority except what the state has given, the State has given the County the authority to adopt a Zoning Ordinance and it must be determined if the state has to abide by the County's Zoning Ordinance; which the state in the first place gave the authority to adopt. Jurisdiction is an important issue. Mr. Gerred stated that he has requested the County Attorney to review the question of jurisdiction. Mr. Gerred is going to have the entire situation investigated and will inform the Commissioners of the results.

CHANGE OF TITLE CLASSIFICATION CLERK-STENOGRAPHER TO FISCAL CLERK
OFFICE OF COMMISSION ON AGING

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox stated that a resignation has been received from the individual occupying the position of Clerk-Stenographer in the Office of Commission on Aging. Mr. Cox stated that the Supervisor of that position, Mrs. McGaharn has requested that the title of the position be changed to Fiscal Clerk to better meet the needs of that particular office. The Commissioners approved the Reclassification and authorized the initiation of the employment process.

POINT LOOKOUT STATE PARK STORE FACILITY

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox presented correspondence addressed to Harry S. Hughes, Governor of Maryland setting forth The Commissioner's opposition to the State of Maryland placing a convenience store on the Point Lookout State Park grounds.

After review the Commissioners were in agreement to forwarding this letter to the Governor with the exception of Commissioner Dean.

MAJOR CRIME SQUAD AGREEMENT

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox presented to the Commissioners an Agreement entitled "Major Crime Squad Agreement". This agreement is between the State's Attorney, State Police, Sheriff and the County Commissioners. Mr. Cox stated that the Sheriff has some particular question with regard to this agreement, and suggested that the Commissioners review the document and meet with the Sheriff to clarify the areas that are of concern to the Sheriff, and then make their decision at the next meeting of the Board. The Commissioners were in agreement to Mr. Cox's suggestion.

RESIGNATION OF ZONING/BUILDING INSPECTOR - AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE THE POSITION

Present: Mr. Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox stated the individual holding the position of Zoning/Building Inspector has submitted his resignation, and he was before the Commissioners to request authorization to advertise the position.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to advertise the position available of "Zoning Inspector" vacated by Mr. Prebble Seconded by Commissioner Aud. Commissioners Arnold, Sayre voted in favor, Commissioner Millison voting no. The motion carried.

PLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS MARYLAND 246 AND ESSEX DRIVE AND MARYLAND ROUTE 246 AND SHANGRI LA DRIVE

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox presented an agreement with the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative for electrical services for the placement of traffic signals on Maryland Route 246 and Essex Drive and Maryland 246 and Shangri La Drive and requested that the President execute this agreement. The Commissioners were in agreement and the Agreement was executed.

Commissioner Dean stated that there have been extreme difficulties encountered trying to make a left hand turn from 235 to Shangri La Drive. This is especially prevalant at the time the Naval Base is letting off

from work. Commissioner Dean requested Mr. Cox to look into the situation of a left hand signal in this area and to report back his findings.

ECONOMIC IMPACT AGREEMENT - WILDERNESS SUBDIVISION
SECTION ONE - ABEL CLARKE, ET UX

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox presented an Economic Impact Fee Agreement by and between Joseph Abel Clarke and Judith Clarke for Section One in the Wilderness Subdivision containing 33 lots. Mr. Cox stated that the document have been reviewed by the County Attorney and signed by all appropriate parties involved and requested the Commissioners approval for the President to execute the Agreement. The Commissioners were in agreement to having the document executed as presented.

LEONARDTOWN BY-PASS

Present: Edward V. Cox County Administrator

Mr. Cox stated that correspondence has been received from the State giving the County a period of 90 days to reply as to their position on the by-pass. If no reply is forwarded, they will continue with implementation of the Final Planning stage. The Commissioners agreed that no comments would be forwarded.

REGIONAL LIBRARY FACILITY AT CHARLOTTE HALL

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox stated that the Commissioners had informed the Regional Library Board that they would give a decision as to being able to locate the Regional Library Resource Center on a site at Charlotte Hall, and this matter needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Dean stated that in his opinion if the County is going to give the Regional Library Board the land that they could make some assurances to the County that a library for the Fifth District be included. Mr. Dean requested that Mr. Cox forward correspondence expressing the Commissioners' desires that if the County is to give the land that the Board in turn for the giving of the land would make arrangements to allocate space for a Fifth District Library on the site.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

Mr. Cox stated that the Tourist Information Center would be opening for the Memorial Day Weekend and would continue during the summer months at the Headmaster's House on the Charlotte Hall property.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE - ENCUMBRANCE VOUCHERS

Present: B. Harris Sterling, Director of Finance

Mr. Sterling presented the encumbrance vouchers for the Commissioners' review and approval. Commissioner Dean made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Arnold. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

TRANSPORTATION STUDY REPORT

Present: Eleanor Ritchie, Chairman
Stan Schrader, Board of Education

Mrs. Ritchie presented the Commissioners with the Preliminary School Transportation Study Report. She stated that the Committee has met approximately 5 times within the past two months and it was her recommendation that the Commissioners continue this Committee until December of 1979 in order to have a Final Report done. She stated that they would need ample time to study bus routes for public and non-public schools, as well as the number of buses operating, the contracts, insurance, etc. After discussion the Commissioners were in agreement to continuing the Committee until December of 1979.

MOBILE HOME PARKS

Present: Frank Gerred, Director of Planning and Zoning

Mr. Gerred stated that under the Zoning Ordinance existing Mobile Home Parks are to come in compliance by May 28, 1979 and that this date is not sufficient time for these requirements. He suggested that this deadline be extended for six months. He also stated that he thought it would be appropriate for the Commissioners to appoint a committee to review what is required and the effect this will have on Mobile Home Parks. He suggested that the committee have at least a Mobile Home Park Owner, a

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county resident and one Commissioner. After the committee has reviewed the effects, etc., they would report back to the Commissioners. After discussion the Commissioners stated that they would consider at next week's meeting the appointment of a committee.

Also, Mr. Gerred was instructed by the Commissioners to draft a resolution for an extension of time whereby Mobile Home Parks could come in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance to meet all minimum requirements of set back, skirting, density, etc. The present deadline is May 28, 1979.

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Present: Joseph P. O'Dell, Budget Officer

Mr. O'Dell stated that the primary purpose of this meeting is to follow up on the public hearings and to finalize the budget process. Mr. O'Dell stated that he would like to get the tentative changes set at this meeting and hopefully get the approved budget document back before the Commissioners at next Wednesday's meeting. He also stated that the Inventory Tax Report hopefully would be before the Commissioners on May 23rd for review and discussion.

The Sheriff had requested that a Weapons Training System be implemented into the budget. After review by the Commissioners it was decided that it would not be a part of this year's budget, but the possibility could be explored of obtaining this device on a Tri-County basis. Also, to see if the Naval Air Station has such a device, and if so explore the use of their equipment.

The subject of the position of Economic Coordinator being placed in the budget was discussed at some length. Commissioner Dean made a motion to retain the position of Economic Development Coordinator in the FY 79-80 Budget, and this motion does not at the present time authorize the filling of the position, it merely is to retain the position in the budget, seconded by Commissioner Sayre. Commissioners Dean, Aud and Sayre in favor, Commissioners Arnold and Millison against. Motion carried.

The Home for the Elderly has requested that additional funds be allocated in this year's budget in the amount of \$30,000. After discussion the Commissioners requested Mr. O'Dell to forward correspondence to the Home for the Elderly stating that they were unable to grant their request.

The Potomac River Museum had requested additional funds be allocated in this year's budget. After review by the Commissioners no additional funds will be allocated to the Potomac River Museum.

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There was a request for the lighting of Henderson Park. The Commissioners stated that it was more important to give the citizens additional parks that are needed, and the lighting would not be considered in this year's budget.

The St. Mary's Hospital has requested \$3,000 for the monitoring device to be used in the intensive care unit. After discussion the Commissioners decided to add this to the budget.

The Sheriff's Department has requested two additional positions. After review the Commissioners denied this request and it will not be funded in this year's budget

Mr. Cox stated to the Commissioners that the classifications that were discussed in executive session in the morning will be brought back to the Commissioners next week with the fiscal impact on the budget determined by Mr. O'Dell.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Arnold. All Commissioners in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 a.m.

Approved,


George R. Aud, President

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