

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Tuesday, February 22, 1983

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

(Commissioner Millison was not present due to the fact that he was subpoenaed to take a deposition for a suit they have against him).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Aud moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to approve payment of the vouchers as submitted by the Director of Finance. Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnold, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of February 15, 1983.

TOMATO INDUSTRY PROJECT

Present: Ed Swecker, Cooperative Extension Office  
Dan Donnally, " " "

The referenced representatives of the Cooperative Extension Office appeared before the Commissioners to express their appreciation for financial support for the demonstration tomato project. Mr. Swecker stated that the project has grown from a five acres a year project to a 55 acres, and has provided a two-fold benefit to the County: (1) youth employment in the County and (2) cash income to the County.

Mr. Donnally explained that H.H. Perry, a commercial canning company, contracts with individuals in the County for the growing of the tomatoes and the Cooperative Extension office provides technical information, such as disease and insect control. Mr. Donnally and Mr. Swecker continued discussion and presented statistics on the amount of tomatoes grown, acreage and income to the growers. They stated that they were of the opinion that interest in this project will increase.

In closing, the Commissioners thanked them for their informative presentation.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The County Administrator presented the following Budget Amendments for the Commissioners' review and approval as recommended by the Director of Budget and Data Services:

No. 83-39  
State's Attorney's Office

To acquire four drawer and two drawer filing cabinets not currently budgeted.

No. 83-38  
St. Mary's Public Schools

For request to implement new data processing capabilities. Phase One of multi-year development.

Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean, to approve Budget Amendments Nos. 83-38 and 83-39. Motion unanimously carried.

CLEARINGHOUSE PROJECTS

NO. 83-1-261 - HUD SUBDIVISION FEASIBILITY -  
GREENVIEW KNOLLS VILLAGE TOWNHOUSE

NO. 83-1-226 - VA SUBDIVISION FEASIBILITY-  
WILDEWOOD - ST. MARY'S COUNTY

The County Administrator presented the referenced clearinghouse projects and recommended that they 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.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Dean, to appoint Carolyn Stolhand to the Library Board of Trustees for a term to expire December 31, 1987. Motion unanimously carried.

1983 LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW

The County Administrator advised that copies of legislation submitted by the Commissioners have been received. He stated that he has reviewed these bills and finds them to be as submitted by the Commissioners and therefore would prepare correspondence to our legislative delegation to that effect. The Commissioners gave their concurrence.

CORRESPONDENCE TO LEGISLATORS

Commissioner Dean reported that he was advised that with regard to all correspondence to our legislative delegation, the original should be forwarded to Senator Bernard Fowler, with copies to the other members.

TRICCA PROJECT  
(TRI-COUNTY CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS)

The County Administrator presented correspondence for the Commissioners' review and signatures addressed to Governor Hughes and our legislative delegation expressing the County's support of the referenced project.

The Commissioners agreed to sign and forward said letters.

POINT LOOKOUT STATE PARK EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Aud, to appoint Mr. William H. Peterson of Ridge, Maryland to the Point Lookout State Park Evaluation Committee. Motion unanimously carried.

ZONING AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO. 83-02  
TEX-LAND CORPORATION (7-11 STORE)  
(ZONE #82-0636)

Requesting zoning approximately .56 acres, located at the intersection of Md. Rt. 235 and Gunston Drive, Eighth Election District, Tax Map 35C, Parcel 25, from R-1, Rural Residential, to C-2, Extensive Highway Commercial.

Having conducted a public hearing on October 25, 1982 and held subsequent discussions, Commissioner Arnold moved, seconded by Commissioner Aud, to approve and sign Zoning Amendment Resolution No. 83- . Commissioners

Aud and Arnold voted in favor; Commissioner Dean voted against, stating it is a small site, fully developed and the purpose of the rezoning was to allow the addition of gas pumps, and he believed that this would create too great an impact on traffic; Commissioner Sayre abstained. Motion carried with a 2-1-1 vote. (Commissioner Millison will be given an opportunity to vote and sign the Resolution.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

The Commissioners agreed to meet in Executive Session in order to discuss matters of Personnel. The Session was held from 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. The Commissioners then continued in Executive Session with John Baggett, Director, Recreation and Parks to discuss a matter of land acquisition. The Session was held from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

PROCLAMATION NO. 83-11  
YOUTH ART MONTH

The Commissioners presented the referenced Proclamation designating March as Youth Art Month in St. Mary's County.

PROCLAMATION NO. 83-13  
APRIL - CLEAN UP MONTH

Present: James Mora, Coordinator

The Commissioners presented the referenced Proclamation designating April as Clean-Up Month in St. Mary's County.

WATER AVAILABILITY IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Present: Larry Petty, Director, Metropolitan Commission  
Walter Raum, Director, Environmental Hygiene  
Frank Gerred, Director, Planning & Zoning

By way of a chart presentation, Mr. Petty discussed with the Commissioners the availability of water in the Piney Point and Aquia aquifers in St. Mary's County. He stated that in the update of certain data used in the Aquia/Piney Point Aquifer Study by U.S. Geological Survey it appeared that the groundwater shortage problems are not as serious as indicated in the 1981 report prepared by the University of Maryland, Department of Geography (The Structure and Status of Water Supply Planning in Maryland.) To substantiate this finding, Mr. Petty presented projections of water usage and drawdowns from the Piney Point and Aquia aquifers for the period of 1981 to the year 2000 in the Lexington Park and Piney Point areas. He stated that there did not appear to be any water shortage problems for the next twenty years in those areas; however, there are some individual homeowners' wells that may be affected by the draw down. Mr. Raum pointed out that at present use, the drawdown is approximately two feet per year in these two aquifers.

During discussion, Commissioner Dean recommended, that although water availability appears to be plentiful, it may be advantageous to require large users of water to use the newly discovered deeper aquifer, Upper Cretaceous. He suggested that perhaps a policy could be developed establishing the use of the Upper Cretaceous aquifer and the use of the Aquia and Piney Point aquifers. This policy would forestall the loss of some of the smaller wells. Mr. Petty questioned who would be responsible for the financial aspects of such a policy.

No decision was made at this time regarding the policy.

POINT LOOKOUT STATE PARK EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Present: Larry Petty, Chairman  
Walter Raum  
Frank Gerred

In response to an inquiry from the Commissioners for an update on the activities of the Point Lookout State Park Evaluation Committee, Mr. Petty advised that there was a special meeting February 17, 1983 regarding state grant funds for the hookup of the two camps to the wastewater treatment plant at Point Lookout. Mr. Petty stated that funds for the project may have been jeopardized when the Commissioners withheld their support of the Point Lookout Facilities Master Plan in order to have time to determine feasibility of public usage of the sewage treatment plant. If the available funds are not used for this project, they may be reprogramed to another state project.

Mr. Petty further stated that at the February 17 meeting, several motions were offered and all were deadlocked. One side of the committee was in favor of having the Facilities Plan rewritten to address the problems in Lake Conoy Sanitary District; the other side of the committee said the problems should be recognized; however, the Commissioners' support of the Plan should be reinstated, but to look to the future updates to address these problems.

After discussion, the Commissioners agreed that since they appointed a committee to submit a recommendation to the Board, and since the committee could not reach an agreement, that the Commissioners would have to make a decision.

The County Administrator was directed to contact the State Health Department to determine how long the Commissioners have to make a decision as to approval of the Point Lookout Facilities Master Plan.

Later in the meeting the Commissioners were able to contact by telephone Mr. Richard Sellars of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene who informed the Commissioners that unless action is taken concerning the facilities plan, funds now available will be lost. Accordingly, the Commissioners discussed the alternatives available to them and decided to take action since there were no firm recommendations from the local committee and since a delay concerning the feasibility plan would eliminate resolution of the health/environmental problems with the boys camps.

Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Arnold, that correspondence should be prepared by the County Administrator for the Commissioners' signatures requesting the state to proceed to service the boys camps from the Point Lookout State Park Sewage Treatment Facility and that the State be requested to continue to study the feasibility of also servicing the community of that area. Motion unanimously carried.

REZONING HEARING  
ZONE #82-1164  
ORIE P. BEASLEY

Present: Frank Gerred, Director, Office of Planning & Zoning

(Requesting rezoning of approximately 11,209 acres, located on Rue Purchase Road, 8th Election District, Tax Map 43, Block 3, Parcel 209, from R-1, Rural-Residential, to R-15, Multi-Family.)

Commissioners Present: George Aud, Richard Arnold, Ford Dean, David Sayre.

The Commissioners opened the Public Hearing, and Mr. Gerred advised that the attorney for the applicant submitted a letter requesting that the hearing be delayed until a later date. The County Attorney will have to render a decision as to whether or not the rescheduled hearing must be advertised.

Commissioner Dean moved, seconded by Commissioner Sayre, to continue the hearing until a later date. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

The Commissioners agreed to meet in Executive Session in order to discuss matters of Personnel. The Session was held from 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

PROCLAMATION NO. 83-12  
BIG BROTHER/BIG SISTER

The Commissioners presented the referenced Proclamation designating the week of February 20-26, 1983 as Big Brother/Big Sister Week in St. Mary's County. Further the Commissioners presented the following individuals awards from the Big Brother/Big Sister program:

Velma Sanford - Big Sister of the Year  
Ronald L. Campbell - Big Brother of the Year  
Couples Match - Timothy and Victoria Downs  
Volunteer of the Year - Bill Mitchell

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator  
Joseph P. O'Dell, Director, Budget & Data Services

The Commissioners agreed to meet in Executive Session in order to discuss matters of Personnel. The Session was held from 2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Approved,

  
George R. Aud, President