

ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 8, 1994

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Present: Commissioner Carl M. Loffler, Jr., President
Commissioner W. Edward Bailey
Commissioner Robert T. Jarboe
Commissioner John G. Lancaster
Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, March 1, 1994, including the Planning and Zoning portion regarding Growth Allocations. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, to authorize Commissioner Loffler to sign the Check Register as presented. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Present: Edward V. Cox, County Administrator

1) **Response Letter**
Potomac River Association

In response to a January 18 letter from the Potomac River Association, the County Administrator presented correspondence relative to the tank conversion at Steuart Petroleum Company and Myrtle Point. The return letter advises that the Commissioners are reviewing the issues about the tanks and will take appropriate actions. The letter also indicates that the Commissioners have not changed their position regarding Myrtle Point, that they continue to support the current planned use of the property as a Planned Unit Development.

Commissioner Lancaster moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to sign and forward the letter as presented. Motion carried.

2) **Interstate General**
Westbury Project Review Fees

In response to the February 7 letter from Interstate General Company, the County Administrator presented correspondence advising that the Director of Planning and Zoning has recommended the charge of a single fee of \$110 to process and record the 62-lot "confirmatory plat."

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, to sign and forward the letter as presented. Motion carried.

3) **League of Women Voters
Public Information**

In response to the February 1 letter from the League of Women Voters, the County Administrator presented correspondence advising that there are many efforts in the county devoted to informing the citizens about their government (radio shows, monthly public forums, weekly meetings aired on local television, and information releases). Relative to discussion regarding an annual report, the letter further points out that the budget message will contain summary information on the functions, activities and initiatives of major departments.

Commissioner Bailey moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to sign and forward the letter as presented. Motion carried four to one with Commissioner Thompson voting against.

4) **Fiscal Year 1994 Emergency Shelter Grant Application**

The County Administrator presented a grant application for the St. Mary's County Emergency Shelter Grant requesting \$39,941 for four projects:

- o Expansion of existing shelter resources through Walden/Sierra (\$10,000)
- o Reduction of Walden/Sierra's transportation operating overhead costs (\$16,307)
- o Establishment at DSS of a part-time, temporary, transitional housing coordinator (\$3,634)
- o Money assistance to homeless individuals related to security deposits or preventing evictions (\$10,000)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to approve and authorize Commissioner Loffler to sign the grant application as presented. Motion carried.

5) **Commission for Women
Shelter Task Force**

In response to March 2 letter from the Commission for Women requesting the establishment of a Domestic Violence Shelter Task Force, the County Administrator presented correspondence indicating the Commissioners' concurrence. The return letter requests the Commission for Women to prepare a proposal for the task force's scope of duties, which should include defining the need for the shelter, options to meet the needs, and a list of recommendations for appointment.

Commissioner Bailey moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to sign and forward the letter as presented. Motion carried.

6) **Appointments
Lexington Park Task Force**

Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, and motion carried to make the following appointments:

Ed Forsman	No Term
Dan McPherson	No Term
John Norris	No Term
Robert Whitley	No Term

7) **1994 Legislative Status Report**

For the Commissioners' information the County Administrator presented a Status Report of the 1994 Legislative items.

8) **Citizen Advisors' Appreciation Night**

The County Administrator presented a memorandum setting forth a proposal for the 1994 Citizen Advisors' Appreciation Night to be held August 11 at the Hollywood Fire House at a cost of \$6,000.

Commissioner Bailey moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to approve the scheduling of the Citizen Advisors' Appreciation Night as proposed. Motion carried.

9) **Motor Vehicle Administration
New Facility Opening**

The County Administrator advised that the new Motor Vehicle Administration facility has been completed and is scheduled to open for service by the end of March.

10) **Addenda to Public Works Agreement**

On behalf of the Director of the Department of Public Works, the County Administrator presented the following Addenda to Public Works Agreements:

Indian Creek Manor

Between Arthur L. Hintze and Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County extending the deadline for completion of improvements to September 1, 1994. The Addendum is backed by a Bond in the amount of \$33,500 with Selective Insurance Company of America.

Cedar Cove

Between Heritage Manor Homes, Inc. and Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County extending the deadline for completion of improvements to March 1, 1995. The Addendum is backed by a Letter of Credit in the amount of \$104,000 with Maryland Bank and Trust Company.

Forest Knolls

Between Dennis Frikscholz c/o D&E Construction Company and the Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County extending the deadline for completion of improvements to December 1, 1994. The Addendum is backed by a Letter of Credit in the amount of \$29,000 with First National Bank of St. Mary's.

Commissioner Lancaster moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Loffler to sign the Addenda to Public Works Agreements as presented. Motion carried.

12) **Budget Amendments**

The County Administrator presented the following budget amendments recommended for approval by the Director of Finance with justifications as indicated:

No. 94-60

County Commissioners

To provide funding for "Welcome to St. Mary's County" signs (\$15,000)

(Budget Amendments - Continued)

No. 94-62

Public Works

To provide funding to cover salary costs due to recent snow/ice/wind storms in the Vehicle Maintenance Division (\$18,200)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to approve and authorize Commissioner Loffler to sign Budget Amendments No. 94-60 and 94-62 as presented. Motion carried.

No. 94-61

County Attorney

To provide funding for attorney's fees relative to the preparation of Rules and Regulations for the operation of the St. Mary's County Airport (\$15,000)

(Commissioner Loffler did not participate in this discussion/decision; Commissioner Thompson presided over this action.)

Commissioner Bailey moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to approve and authorize Commissioner Vice-President Thompson to sign Budget Amendment No. 94-61 as presented. Motion carried.

SENATE BILL 605

PATUXENT RIVER WATERSHED PRIMARY MANAGEMENT AREA

Commissioner Thompson advised that the referenced legislation was introduced establishing a Patuxent River Watershed Primary Management Area, and because the issue will be discussed at the March 9 Commission meeting requested direction from the Commissioners. The bill states that any construction within the Primary Management Area requires the Commission to develop maps delineating the area, and disturbance of more than 5,000 square feet requires approval by the Commission. Director of Planning and Zoning Grimm reviewed the legislation, and by memorandum dated March 5 indicated that the actual cost to the County would be nominal; however, he believed the burden on landowners and the Patuxent River Commission will be significant relative to time needed to process, review and approve the applications.

The Commissioners expressed concern that the legislation would create another level of bureaucracy. Commissioner Loffler pointed out that he believed that because of the similarity of requirements, that these requirements could be worked within the Critical Area legislation.

ANNUAL REPORT

MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Present: George Roberson, Chair
Francis Fenwick, Member
Frank Sullivan, Director, Mental Health

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to present the 1993 Annual Report of the Mental Health Authority. Mr. Roberson explained the purpose of the Board and its area of responsibilities. The Mental Health Authority was established in 1991 as a Mental health Core Service Agency and is administered as a Division of the Health Department. Mr. Sullivan reviewed the activities of the Board, including mental health planning; coordination, monitoring, and funding of services; management of public funds for mental health in the County; and quality assurance and utilization review.

A copy of the report is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

ANNUAL REPORT AIDS TASK FORCE

Present: Mary Novotny
Diana McKinney

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to present the 1993 Annual Report for the AIDS Task Force. The Task Force, composed of representatives from the Health Department, Public Schools, St. Mary's College, Navy, Clergy, St. Mary's Hospital, Harry Lundeberg, emergency care workers, and the general public, was established in 1985, to address the issue of Human Immunodeficiency Virus and to educate the public regarding AIDS. Mrs. Novotny highlighted the activities of 1993 including HIV/AIDS training; presentation of programs, availability of manager's kits; recognition of World AIDS Day. Future Considerations including the continuation of a preventative approach through intensive public education.

A copy of the report is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

MARCEY HOUSE

Present: Jerome Fenwick
Wayne Guy
Paul Meloan
Oliver "Skip" Stewart
Larry Harvey, Director

Annual Report

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to present the 1993 Annual Report for the Marcey House Board. Mr. Fenwick explained the Board's purpose and responsibilities stating that Marcey House provides residential treatment and rehabilitation services to individuals recovering from substance abuse.

Mr. Harvey reviewed the significant activities of the past year and program statistics from Fiscal Year 1990 through 1993 which included numbers of admissions, withdrawals, discharges, graduates, and percentage of participants from St. Mary's County. Problems and challenges included inadequate funding from ADAA and the pursuit of other funding sources. Plans for the upcoming year include the continuation of the operation of an efficient and effective program, seeking of alternative revenue sources, and to continue to control costs.

A copy of the report is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

Budget/Operation Concerns

Mr. Meloan presented a letter to the Commissioners on behalf of the Marcey House Board relative to the financial crisis facing Marcey House because of lack of adequate funding from the State ADAA. Because of funding shortage Marcey House is requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$16,000 from the Commissioners or having to close its doors for the remainder of the fiscal year as of April 30, when the existing funds will be exhausted. Plans for fund raising efforts (golf tournament) are underway, but will go towards Fiscal Year 1995's budget. Mr. Meloan pointed out that the Marcey House was a cost effective program and of benefit to the County.

Areas of discussion included:

- o Jurisdictional participation and the possibility of proportionate shared costs. Mr. Harvey noted that 25% of the participants are from St. Mary's County.
- o The Agreement with the State for funding the operation of Marcey House and whether it has been breached.

(Marcey House - continued)

- o The County must look at the long-term problem because the State has indicated it would not fund COLA's.
- o The Commissioners did not intend to allow Marcey House to close, but would look toward restructuring.
- o Suggestion that the County pursue through legal means getting the State to live up to its Agreement by fully funding the operation of Marcey House.

After discussion Commissioner Bailey moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to advance fund a loan to Marcey House in the amount up to \$16,000 in order to operate the program through Fiscal Year 1994, and to take necessary legal action to pursue funding from the State. Motion carried.

The Commissioners agreed that the Marcey House Board should notify the other jurisdictions of the impact of state reductions and encourage the jurisdictions that are participating in the program to proportionately share in the costs.

**ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

Present: Edward T. Lewis, President, St. Mary's College
Brian Clarke, "

Dr. Lewis advised the Commissioners of interest that has been expressed by the community in having more cultural activities in the County and, therefore, St. Mary's College has proposed a partnership with the Navy, Federal and State Governments to begin the process for looking into the possibility of a Performing Arts Center in the County. The proposal is for the Center to feature ballets, musicals, symphonies, plays, as well as a conference center.

Dr. Lewis advised that the first stage is to determine if there is a need for the Center, and if so, what type of facility, where it would be located, and community impact, which would require a feasibility study. He requested the Commissioners to play a role in the partnership by sharing in the cost of the feasibility study at a total cost of approximately \$200,000 (with the County's share estimated at around \$50,000).

Areas of discussion included:

- o Priorities in funding commitments (community college, higher education center, public schools)
- o Whether there would be revenue producing aspects of the project.
- o That the County be included in the planning process

After discussion Commissioner Lancaster moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to request county government staff to work with college officials in refining details of the proposal to the point of developing a Request for Proposals to do a feasibility study and return to the Board of County Commissioners with recommendations so that the Commissioners can make a decision on the commitment for funding. Motion carried.

SOTTERLEY

Present: John Hanson Briscoe, Sotterley Foundation
Jim Raley, "
Grace Horton, "
Hope Swann "

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to apprise the Commissioners of the deteriorating condition of the Sotterley Mansion and to request the Commissioners' commitment of approximately 20% of the estimated costs of renovations. Mr. Raley advised the Commissioners of the details relative to the seriousness of the physical condition of the mansion and its dependencies, which includes severe termite damage. He stated that an evaluation of the facility resulted in the selection of an architect to provide a more comprehensive structural evaluation. A Task Force has been established to develop by June 1 a renovation plan.

During his presentation Mr. Raley made the following points:

- o That Sotterley is important to the County, as a tourist attraction, and an educational center, as well as significant part of the County's history. He pointed out the increased number of visitors and the various uses of the facility.
- o That Senate Bond Bill 523 requires Sotterley to raise and spend \$80,000 to renovate the mansion before it can receive matching funds from the State.
- o That the architect estimated renovations at \$1,077,000 (floors, walls, roof, rafters, etc.) with additional requirements estimated at \$350,000 (heat, air conditioning, electrical fire detection/suppression).

In conclusion Mr. Raley requested direction from the Commissioners as to how to approach the renovation project and for a commitment of support of up to 20% of the costs.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to take the request under consideration and request staff to review the proposal and report back to the Commissioners within 30 days.

GERMAN U-BOAT (UNDERWATER PARK)

Present: Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation and Parks
Michael Humphries, Director, St. Clements Museum
Richard Hughes, Maryland Historical Trust
Donald Shomette
Recreation & Park Board Members
Friends of the Museum Members

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to inform the Board the sunken German U-Boat, now owned by the Maryland Historical Trust and the Navy, will be used to create the State's first underwater park in the Potomac River at Piney Point.

Mr. Hughes by way of a slide presentation gave an overview of the history of the vessel, which had been launched during World War II and after the war, turned over to the United States. The boat had been towed from the Chesapeake Bay in 1946, sunk 85 feet in the Potomac River, and was rediscovered in 1985. the U-Boat will be used as an experimental divers' center and preserve.

During his presentation Mr. Hughes indicated that the Trust has applied for a grant from the Defense Department to get the underwater project started. A visitors' center will be established at the Potomac River Museum that will feature photographs, artifacts, and exhibits regarding the U-Boat.

In conclusion the Commissioners thanked the referenced individuals for the presentation and requested to be kept informed of the project's progress.

ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAM

Present: Paul Wible, Director, Emergency Management Agency

At the request of the Commissioners at last week's meeting, Mr. Wible appeared before the Commissioners to present budgetary information relative to the Animal Control Program. Mr. Wible presented a handout setting forth budget requests for Other Contract Services (from 1990 through proposed 1995 and 1996, staffing patterns of the Tri-County Animal Shelter, St. Mary's County's share of operating expenses (37.5%), total budget requests from 1993 through 1995 for the county's program, vehicle mileage, and calls for service. He pointed out that the 1995 amount under contract services (\$262,500) is the county's share of the proposed Adoption/Spay/Neuter Center proposed for the Tri-County Animal Shelter.

During his presentation Mr. Wible pointed out that if Charles County does proceed with the spay/neuter center, the county will still only have two trucks and two wardens after the disbursement of the additional shared costs. He recommended that the Commissioners put the proposed budget for 1995 from Charles County "on hold" until the issue is resolved.

During discussion Commissioner Jarboe raised the issue of whether the County should consider its own shelter based on the costs to the county towards the tri-county shelter.

After discussion the Commissioners agreed to request a tri-county Commissioners' meeting to discuss several regional related issues including the animal control program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Bailey moved, seconded by Commissioner Lancaster, to meet in Executive Session to discuss a matter of Property Disposition (St. Mary's Press), as provided in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11. Motion carried.

Property Disposition - St. Mary's Press

Present: Commissioner Carl M. Loffler, Jr., President
Commissioner W. Edward Bailey
Commissioner Robert T. Jarboe
Commissioner John G. Lancaster
Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson
Edward V. Cox, County Administrator
Joseph Densford, County Attorney
Aleck Loker, Director, DECD
Charles Wade, Director of Finance
Larry Petty, Director Metropolitan Commission
Joseph Mitchell, Attorney, MetComm
Judith A. Spalding, Recording Secretary

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11

Time Held: 1:05 p.m. - 1:35 p.m.

Action Taken: The Commissioners reviewed a proposal relative to the disposition of the St. Mary's Press building and agreed to give consideration at next week's meeting.

ALLIANCE POLICY COUNCIL MEETING

The Commissioners attended the Alliance for Alcohol Drug Abuse Prevention Council meeting at the Carter State Office Building Public Meeting Room.

During the meeting Mr. Walt Biscoe, Prevention Coordinator, advised that the Alliance was preparing a grant for the Summer of Safety Grant for the expansion of the summer camp program and requested \$25,000 support from the Commissioners.

In conclusion Commissioner Loffler indicated that the Commissioners were supportive of underwriting the summer camps program in the amount of \$25,000 and urged the Alliance to continue to find other sources of revenue, to apply for grants and stated that the past success of the Alliance made this commitment realistic.

TOUR OF DETENTION CENTER

In order to review the manpower situation, the Commissioners toured the St. Mary's County Detention Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by Board of
County Commissioners on 3/15/94**

Judith A. Spalding
Recording Secretary