

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 25 AND 26, 1996**

Monday, March 25, 1996

Present Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
 Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
 Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
 Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
 Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
 Aleck Loker, County Administrator
 Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
 Martha Jones

FISCAL YEAR 1997 RECOMMENDED BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Commissioners continued work session on the Fiscal Year 1997 Recommended Budget. The Session was held from 1:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26, 1996

Present Commissioner Barbara R. Thompson, President
 Commissioner D. Christian Brugman
 Commissioner Paul W. Chesser
 Commissioner Frances P. Eagan
 Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
 Aleck Loker, County Administrator
 Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

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

FISCAL YEAR 1997 BUDGET WORK SESSION

Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
 Martha Jones, Budget Analyst

The Commissioners conducted a work session on the Fiscal Year 1997 Recommended Budget.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve the following minutes: Tuesday, February , 1996 (Lexington Park Master Plan); Tuesday, February 20 (Comprehensive Water/Sewer Plan Amendments); Tuesday, March 19, 1996 (Regular Meeting); and Thursday, March 21 (Special Meeting). Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Check Register. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS

Present: Aleck Loker, County Administrator

1) **Director, Office of Community Services Contract**

The County Administrator advised that the Director of Office of Community Service's contract will come up for renewal in 90 days and because of reorganization discussions, he suggested that the Commissioners extend the existing contract 30 days. The Commissioners indicated their concurrence with this recommendation.

2) **Fast Track
Chrysler Corporation**

Also Present: Jon Grimm, Director, Planning and Zoning

Mr. Grimm appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the Fast Track Application by Chrysler Corporation. The property is located north of new north gate on the southbound lane of Route 235. He advised that the application was received March 12 and it meets minimum requirements for fast tracking. Mr. Grimm pointed out that his concern was other projects in the review cycle and whether this project should take precedence over them. He noted that if the Commissioners agree to fast tracking, it would require overtime for his department in order to process applications in the regular cycle.

A letter was received by the Commissioners from the Chair of the Economic Development Commission indicating support of the Fast Track Application for Chrysler.

Discussion ensued whether this request should be given precedence over other projects and whether the project was doable in the time frame suggested by Chrysler. Mr. Grimm will return to the Commissioners at next week's meeting to provide additional information.

3) **Correspondence**

The County Administrator presented the following correspondence for the Commissioners' review and consideration.

- a. To President, Board of Trustees, Leonard Hall Junior Naval Academy regarding school development plans.
- b. To Acting State Coordinator Young, HUD, thanking him for his presentation to the Commissioners on March 12.
- c. To Danny Kim regarding a proposed private-public partnership for a family fishing and recreation facility
- d. To Maryland Department of Environment regarding sewage sludge permit application to apply sludge on the following properties: Luther Wolfe, Samson's Harbor Corporation, and William Cryer.
- e. To Chair, Ethics Commission, regarding a possible conflict regarding a member of a certain board.
- f. To Captain Standridge regarding use of ballfields on the Navy Base and requesting consideration to bring the lease of the Navy-owned land on Willows Road to closure.

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to sign and forward the letters a, b, c, d, e and f and as presented.

During discussion of the motion, Commissioner Eagan raised concern relative to the correspondence to Danny Kim (Letter c), stating that the Commissioners need to be consistent about not accepting unsolicited proposals. The County Administrator will request the Director of

Recreation and Parks to amend the letter to indicate that it is the Commissioners' policy to not accept unsolicited proposals and that if the County were to pursue such a facility, Mr. Kim would be given an opportunity to bid.

After discussion Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to amend the motion to withdraw approval of Letter c. Motion carried.

Vote on the main motion as amended to approve letters a,b,d,e, and f) was unanimous.

- g. To Congressional Delegation regarding Federal Impact Aid (Commissioner Thompson's signature)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the letter to the Congressional Delegation (Letter g) regarding Federal Impact Aid for Education (the letter to be redone on County Government stationery). Motion carried.

- h. To Senate and House Budget Committees regarding the importance of the Governor's Supplemental Budget Request for \$1M for educational impact and for \$150,000 for the Higher Education Center to Southern Maryland.

County Administrator Loker indicated that the letter has been prepared in two versions; one, to be signed by the St. Mary's County Commissioners; and two, to be signed by the three Boards of County Commissioners (which will be presented at the Tri-County Commissioners' meeting this evening).

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chessser, to sign both versions of the letter, present the letter for the three boards signatures at this evening's meeting, and forward the appropriate letters. Motion carried.

- 2) **Boards, Committees, Commissions**
- a) **Appointments**

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, and motion carried, to make the following appointments to Boards and Committees with terms as indicated:

Ethics Commission

George K. Abell (regular member)	06/30/98/2001
Peter N. Weiskopf (alternate)	06/30/97/2000

Recreation and Parks Board

James Burgan	12/31/98/2002
Clifton B. Head	12/31/98/2002

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Chessser, to make the following appointment to the Board of Appeals. Four Commissioners voted in favor with Commissioner Thompson abstaining.

Zoning Board of Appeals

James H. Thompson	12/31/99
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- b) **Letters of Appreciation**

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to sign and forward the letters of appreciation (for service on boards and presentation of annual reports). Motion carried.

3) **Budget Amendments**

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

No. 96-39 - Economic Development

Justification: Salary and Fringe Realignment for Agricultural/Seafood Clerk Typists and Loan Officer during Neighborhood Business Development Plan Project.
(\$16,615)

No. 96-40 - Public Schools

Justification: Temporary transfer of funds for the Chopticon High School Addition/Renovation project to cover costs of a/e design services (\$100,00)

No. 96-41 - Director of Finance

Justification: Additional Audit Costs (\$4,785)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to approve the referenced budget amendments as presented. Motion carried.

4) **Grant Documents**

a) **Homeless Services Program
Letter of Intent to Participate**

On behalf of the Department of Social Services the County Administrator presented a Letter of Intent to Participate in the Homeless Services Program, Services- Linked Program in the amount of \$50,000

Commissioner Eagan questioned whether the Three Oaks Homeless shelter could participate in any of the grant funding. County Administrator Loker will request the Department of Social Services to provide information regarding whether the Homeless Shelter could receive a portion of this funding.

b) **St. Mary's County Youth Services Corps**

Also Present: Cynthia Brown, Director, Office of Community Services
Joe Dick, Alliance Prevention Director
Joe Donick, Alliance Prevention Coordinator

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioner to present a Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention Grant Application under the Byrne Memorial Formula Grant Program in the amount of \$40,000 for the St. Mary's County Youth Services Corps Project. The grant funds would provide for year-round Counselors-In-Training program for high risk youth, which would supplement the existing Summer of Safety CIT program.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chesser, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Grant Application as presented. Motion carried.

c) **Revised Senior Center Program Notification of Grant Award (FY '96)
MTA Grant Application Signature Page (FY '97)**

On behalf of the Office on Aging the County Administrator presented the Revised Senior Center Program NGA for Fiscal Year 1996 which reduces the funding allocation by 25%; and a signature page for the previously approved FY '97 MTA Grant Application

Commissioner Brugman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Revised Senior Center Program NGA for FY '96. Motion carried.

Commissioner Thompson signed the Assurance signature page of the previously approved MTA Grant Application.

**d) Housing Preservation Grant Application
Rural Economic & Community Development**

Also Present: Dennis Nicholson, Acting Director, DECD
Nancy Hutson, Loan Officer

The referenced individuals appeared before the Commissioners to present a Grant Application in the amount of \$75,000 to provide financial assistance through loans and grant funds to very low income families for housing rehabilitation.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Eagan, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Housing Preservation Grant Application as presented. Motion carried.

5) Department of Public Works Items

On behalf of the Department of Public Works the County Administrator presented the following documents:

- a) Public Works Agreement with James Dobry, Robert Garner, and Raymond Woodburn guaranteeing completion of improvements in Greenview West PUD, Section 1. The Agreement is backed by a Letter of Credit with First National Bank of St. Mary's in the amount of \$102,000.
- b) Correspondence to First National Bank of St. Mary's calling Letter of Credit in the amount of \$505,100 for Grading Permit No. 92-20 for Greenbrier, Section 1, Phase 1 and 2.

Commissioner Chesser moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the Public Works Agreement and the correspondence to First National Bank of St. Mary's (to be forwarded if necessary). Four Commissioners voted in favor with Commissioner Eagan abstaining as she is on the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of St. Mary's.

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE**

Present: Sheriff Richard Voorhaar

Sheriff Voorhaar appeared before the Commissioners to present a report on the first quarter of 1996 in the Sheriff's Department relative to public safety issues and to submit copies of the Sheriff's Department's Annual Report for 1995.

During his presentation the Sheriff reviewed current staffing, the recent graduation from the police academy of 25 officers for the tri-county area; quality assurance program; domestic violence task force; agreement with Mental Health Authority; participation with TRIAD in the Adopt-A-Senior Program; and the Chaplain's Program.

In closing Sheriff Voorhaar advised that he would be coming before the Board to make regular quarterly reports.

**PROCLAMATION
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

The Commissioners presented the referenced Proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in St. Mary's County.

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

Present: Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation and Parks

1) **St. Clements Museum Grant Application**

Also Present: Michael Humphries, Director, St. Clements Museum

Mr. Rollins and Mr. Humphries appeared before the Commissioners to present three grant applications for the St. Clements Island and Piney Point Museums

- Grant Application in the amount of \$26,000 from Maryland Historical Trust, Capital Grants for the restoration of the Piney Point Lighthouse to be used to replace the interior of the tower including pole, steps and risers; second phase concerns the masonry repairs to the basement of the Keeper's Quarters.
- Grant Application from the Maryland Historical Trust, Lighthouse Projects (same as above but from a different funding source).
- Competitive Grant Application in the amount of \$38,571 from the Institute of Museum Services, and if awarded, to be used for educational purposes, including traveling exhibits, brochures, and travel expenses.

Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Brugman, to approve and authorize Commissioner Thompson, to sign the referenced grant applications as presented. Motion carried.

2) **Scott Verbic Memorial Golf Tournament**

Also Present: Arthur Shepherd
Gary Reed, Activities Coordinator

Mr. Rollins and the referenced Recreation and Parks staff appeared before the Board to announce that there will be a Scott Verbic Memorial Golf Tournament, sponsored by Recreation and Parks on Friday, May 3 at the Wicomico Shores Golf Course. Mr. Verbic, who passed away last year, was a volunteer on the R&P Board and was involved in several youth sports programs. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Department's Summer Camp Scholarship Program to enable low income youths to attend summer camp.

After the presentation Commissioner Eagan indicated that the firm of Eagan and McAllister would be a corporate sponsor. In addition the Board of Commissioners agreed to also be a corporate sponsor.

3) **Fiscal Year '97 Budget
Athletic Field Improvements**

Commissioner Brugman advised Mr. Rollins that the Commissioners included in the FY '97 Budget \$40,000 as a separate line item for improvements to athletic fields. He stated that the Commissioners would like for Mr. Rollins to provide them with a plan of action on how these funds would be utilized within 30 days.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF AIRPARK SALES AND SERVICE LEASE

Present: James Haley, Airport Manager

Mr. Haley advised that the Airport Commission at its March 12 meeting request him to request a 90-day extension of the Airpark Sales and Service, Inc. lease. This would allow an opportunity for the Commission Lease Subcommittee to evaluate the lease application as well as time for completion of the audit report and negotiations for a new lease.

After discussion Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Chessser, to authorize Commissioner Thompson to sign the letter to Airpark Sales and Services, Inc. advising that the current lease has been extended for 90 days. Motion carried.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Juvenile Detention Camp/Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Commissioner Brugman referred to the VisionQuest Conditional Use application (which as withdrawn) and to correspondence from the County Attorney regarding the possibility of amending the Zoning Ordinance to ban future possibilities of this type of situation arising again. The proposed amendment would not prohibit expansion of the Detention Center or other legitimate facilities. After discussion the Commissioners agreed for the County Attorney to work with the Director of Planning and Zoning to develop a proposal to be included in the next update of the Zoning Ordinance and to address if the amendment would impact other facilities.

Navy Alliance/Support of Football Stadiums

Commissioner Brugman requested the County Administrator to inquire of the Navy Alliance as to why it endorsed the football stadiums.

FISCAL YEAR 1997 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
Martha Jones, Budget Analyst

As a follow up to budget work sessions Mr. Welkos presented a summary of departmental/spending units general fund operating budget and highlighted the adjustments made to the budget as recommended by the Commissioners during these sessions. The Recommended Operating Budget is in the amount of \$84.4M; the tax rate set at \$2.11 per \$100 of assessed valuation (\$.02 less than FY '96). Other changes included increase in the monthly **911 Fee** from \$.30 to \$.50 per month (which will be used to purchase a logging and taking machine at EMA); increase in Admissions and Amusement tax from \$.02 to \$.05; and reinstatement of the Accommodations Tax at 5%.

In addition Mr. Welkos reviewed the projects and amounts included in the Fiscal Year 1997 Capital Budget for a total of approximately \$18.8M.

In closing Mr. Welkos advised that the FY '97 Recommended Budget will be prepared as directed, and the Budget Message will be presented to the Board on Thursday, March 28, 1996.

After discussion Commissioner Eagan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve the FY '97 Recommended Budget. Motion carried three to two with Commissioner Thompson and Chessser voting against stating that they did not agree with the reduction of the property tax rate.

ALLIANCE FOR ALCOHOL/DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY COUNCIL MEETING

The Commissioners attended the regularly scheduled Alliance Policy Council Meeting at the Carter State Office Building.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved on April 2, 1996
by Board of St. Mary's County Commissioners

Judith B. Spalding
Recording Secretary