

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
May 18, 1999**

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Mortimer L. Smedley, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

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

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to accept the agenda as amended (to delete executive session on property acquisition). Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the check register, as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, May 11, 1999 as corrected. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Mortimer L. Smedley, County Administrator

- Draft Agendas for May 25, 1999 and June 1, 1999
- 1. Budget Amendments
 - a. No. 99-35 – St. Mary's Public Schools (\$182,877)
(to cover funds required for White Marsh Elementary School Media Center Expansion Project contract award)

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-35. Motion carried.

- b. No. 99-37 – Department of Social Services (\$2,490)
(to cover reimbursement of burial expenses)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-36. Motion carried.

- c. No. 99-38 – Office of Capital Projects (\$8729)
(to provide funding for unbudgeted overtime expenses)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Budget Amendment No. 99-37. Motion carried.

2. Grant Documents

- a. Office on Aging – Grant Agreement
Adult Day Care Services
(State Funding: \$75,480)

Also present: Gene Carter, Director, Office on Aging

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign Grant Agreement. Motion carried.

- b. Office of the Sheriff – Grant Application
Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program
Federal funding - \$57,167; County Funds Required - \$19,055
(third year of grant which provides follow up investigations and support to victims of domestic violence)

(Because of questions raised by the Commissioners relative to this grant, action was deferred until later in the meeting.)

Later in the meeting Commissioner Randall stated that the grant application is due at the state by Thursday, May 20, or the County will lose the funding as well as one deputy position. However, because there are concerns regarding the grant, she recommended that the Commissioners approve the grant application with the stipulation that the Commissioners, Sheriff, and Women's Center work together to try to resolve the personnel issues that are involved.

Therefore, Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Application with the understanding that the referenced parties work together to resolve the issues. Motion carried.

- c. Walden/Sierra, Inc. – Grant Application
St. Mary's County Diversion Project
(Federal Funding - \$141,393; State Funding: \$47,160)

Also Present: Kathy O'Brien, Director, Walden/Sierra
Beth Brandkamp, Walden/Sierra

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Application. Motion carried.

3. Office of Capital Projects

SMECO Easement Agreement – Tri-County Animal Shelter

Also Present: Jim Stirling, Director, Office of Capital Projects

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Application. Motion carried.

4. Metropolitan Commission Infrastructure Bonds, 1999 Series A and Local Government General Certificate

Also Present: Joe Mitchell, Attorney for MetCom
Steve King, Director, MetCom
(Bond in the amount of \$1,830,000 and guaranteed by BOCC)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Bond and Certificate. Motion carried.

5. Letter to Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission regarding draft guidelines for the protection/conservation of forest interior dwelling bird (FIDS) and commercial harvest of timber within the Critical Area.

The Commissioners concurred with the letter and agreed to include it in the Consent Agenda folder for signature.

6. **Information Release
Announcement of Appointment of Public Information Officer**

The Information Release announced the appointment of Yvonne Nutter as the County's Public Information Officer effective May 24.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners presented the following Proclamations:

- **United States Power Squadron Day (May22)**
- **Emergency Medical Services Week**
- **National Public Works Week**

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Naming of St. Mary's County Airport

As a follow up to the Office of Central Services' request for the Commissioners to name the county's airport, Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to name the airport the *Captain Walter Francis Duke Regional Airport at St. Mary's*, one of the most highly decorated war heroes in the County. Motion carried four to one with Commissioner Guazzo voting against stating that although she supported recognizing local veterans and war heroes; however, she did have a problem with recognizing one individual. Commissioner Guazzo suggested that veterans/heroes be honored in some way inside the airport.

Weekend Events

Commissioner Anderson expressed congratulations to the Chamber of Commerce for a successful 1999 Trade Fair this past weekend, and to the St. Clement's Museum staff for celebration at the Piney Point Lighthouse.

Commissioner Anderson advised that he attended the Tri-County Chapter Bowie State University National Alumni Association fund raising dinner held at Chancellors Run Park on Saturday.

Mobile Equipment Operator Position

Commissioner Guazzo referred to the vacancy announcement for the Mobile Equipment Operator and the specifications for that position. She stated that it was her understanding that serious mechanical work was contracted out; however, the announcement listed requirements that were of a complex nature. Commissioner Guazzo requested that the County Administrator look into this.

Fairground Improvements

Commissioner Guazzo stated that the Fair Board operates at the fairgrounds property, which is owned by the Board of County Commissioners. Members of the Fair Board have requested a letter of approval from the Commissioners in order to have the Planning Commission and planning department issue building permits for improvements (bathroom facilities and parking lot). She requested that a letter be drafted asking the Planning Office to expedite the building permits for the Fair Board in order for the projects to be completed by Fair Day in September.

Willows Road Project

Commissioner Guazzo referred to a memorandum from the Director of Recreation and Parks setting forth options with regard to the Willows Road project. She stated that the land is federal property and the Navy has full oversight as to what the County does at the park. The issue is whether the County would be exempting itself from its own rules relative to the rezoning of the property. She suggested that Law Office prepare a memorandum to the Planning Office indicating that Willows Road property is federal property and is therefore exempt from zoning requirements; that the federal government has complete oversight rights for the life of the lease, and requesting that this project be expedited so that development of the park can begin. The zoning issue should be addressed during the comprehensive zoning of the County.

Morganza Post Office

Commissioner Guazzo expressed dissatisfaction with the architecture and design of the Morganza Post Office stating that the structure should be in keeping with the vicinity including the newly renovated Chopticon High School. She said the Leonardtown Post Office was designed in conformity with the architecture of the area.

Wild Waterfowl

Commissioner Guazzo referred to legislation (HB 1187) which relates to hunting of wild waterfowl from boats, shore and blinds. The law transfers responsibility for the issuance of hunting/fishing licenses from the clerks of the court to DNR. She suggested that the County develop a policy regarding the purchase riparian rights as landowners adjacent to tidal waters, and if the County does purchase those rights, whether they will be made available to the public. Commissioner Guazzo recommended that Director of Recreation and Parks, Mr. Rollins, research this matter and determine the impact of this bill on local waters.

Public Accommodations Tax

Commissioner Raley referred to the Commissioners' consideration of re-implementing the Public Accommodations Tax and suggested that the County Attorney draft an Ordinance, which would exempt *Bed and Breakfast* facilities from that requirement. Commissioner Guazzo suggested that rather singling out Bed and Breakfast facilities, that there be exemptions by numbers occupying overnight accommodations; e.g., ten (which would cover B&B's). The Commissioners directed the County Administrator to get legal advice on this issue from the County Attorney.

Tourism Advertisements

Commissioner Raley suggested that when the new Public Information Officer comes on board, that she assist the Department of Economic and Community Development in the review of tourism advertisements before they are published.

Project Updates

Commissioner Anderson requested updates on the following projects: the Southern Maryland Wood Treatment Plant and FDR Boulevard.

Impact Fee Study

Commissioner Anderson advised that he received a telephone call from a constituent volunteering to assist the County staff in looking at impact fees.

Submission of Grant Documents

Commissioner Guazzo requested that all departments submit their grant documents to the Commissioners in a more timely manner (perhaps three weeks in advance) in order to give the Board ample opportunity to review.

FISCAL YEAR 2000 BUDGET REVIEW

Present: Steve Welkos, Director of Finance
Marty Jones, Budget Analyst
Janette Cudmore, Deputy Director of Finance

Willows Road Project/Skate Park

Also present: Phil Rollins, Director, R&P
Cheryl Blazer, R&P Board
Jane Sypher, “

Mr. Rollins pointed out that additional funding needed for the development of the Willows Road park would be in order to come up with \$1.5M for the total project.

Mr. Rollins recommended locating the skate park at the Chancellors Run Road park.

(Because of time constraints, the Commissioners deferred further discussion on the budget and agreed to schedule another work session on Monday, May 24 at 3:30 p.m.)

ATTENDANCE AT VARIOUS EVENTS

The Commissioners departed to attend various events (meeting regarding Tudor Hall Village project; Mt. Zion Methodist Church's summit on violence in schools, and Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship for dedication of new fire training center.)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 5/25/99

Judith A. Spalding
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder