

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
Governmental Center  
Tuesday, August 1, 2000**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to accept the agenda as amended (to add a Proclamation for National Night Out). Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER**

**Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign the Check Register. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, July 25, 2000, as amended. Motion carried.**

**THE SOTTERLEY FOUNDATION  
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION GRANT**

**Present:** Carolyn Laray, Director  
Michael Whitson, Board of Trustees  
Kate Meatyard, “

The referenced individuals appeared before the Board to report on a Federal Grant for transportation enhancements, which is issued through the State. The funds would be used to improve the roadways, provide drainage system, and improve the road shoulders. These improvements would provide access to the Brink Cottage, which can then be used for educational and other uses.

Mr. Whitson indicated that the state would like for Sotterley to have a public partner (St. Mary's County Government), and requested from the Commissioners a preliminary expression of support. No County funds are required, however, the County would be used as a “pass through” for the funds. He further noted that if the County incurs administrative costs, the State would reimburse these costs. The grant, which is in the amount of \$300,000 will be matched in part by a local contractor and possibly donated property at Sotterley.

**After discussion Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, that the Board of County Commissioners give support to the Sotterley Foundation's grant application for the stabilization of the road network and improvement to the drainage of the road to facilitate and expand the educational and tourism program. Motion carried.**

During discussion Ms. Laray announced that:

- ❖ Sotterley was awarded national historic landmark status
- ❖ Sotterley was awarded \$400,000 in preservation funds
- ❖ The annual fund raiser concert will be held on August 13 with *Manhattan Transfer*

In closing Mr. Whitson advised that during the Fall school students visit Sotterley and experience history that can only be done at Sotterley, and he invited the Commissioners to join the students in this program.

#### **THE HOTSPOT TEAM PHASE I INITIATIVE REPORT**

Present: George Forrest, Deputy County Administrator  
Cynthia Brown, Director, Office of Community Services  
Joe Dick, Director, Alliance  
Sheriff Richard Voorhaar

(Other HotSpot Team Members: Walt Biscoe, Manny Sanchez, Agnes Duncan, Eric Phillips, Deputy Andy Holton, Kelsy Bush, Sara Crowder, Robin Finnacom, Dan Schaidt)

The referenced individuals appeared before the Board to provide an update on the completion of three-year Phase I of the HotSpots initiative, a program that addresses issues in high crime areas.

Highlights of the report included:

- ❖ The designated areas in Lexington Park for HotSpots (which include the QUAD, St. Clements Crossing, Lexington Manor, Suburban Estates, Columbia Commons)
- ❖ HotSpot Team participants (Office of Community Services, Sheriff's Department, Parole and Probation, Juvenile Justice, public schools, Recreation and Parks Teen Center, Walden, LMB/DSS/MHA, Lexington Park Revitalization Director, CDC, Residents/Landlords)
- ❖ Structure of Initiative (community mobilization, community policing, community participation, juvenile intervention, after school prevention programs, community addiction recovery, nuisance abatement, and community revitalization).
- ❖ Issues identified by the neighborhoods (fear of retribution, drugs and drunks, uncertainty of impact of revitalization and development, job referral and training, youth activities, sidewalks and lighting, education, and transportation).
- ❖ Identified solutions (neighborhood networking, watching out for each other, after school activities, intervention by CP/CP team, pressure from parents, relatives, and community; Spring Ridge 21<sup>st</sup> Century Prodigy Club; Esperanza Pirates Club; and St. Mary's Caring).
- ❖ The success of the program—decrease in crime rate; residents taking pride in their neighborhoods; proactive supervision; agency coordination; and that the HotSpots Program has been recognized throughout the State as a model program.
- ❖ Expression of appreciation to Rachelle Millison for her donation of office space for the HotSpots Team.
- ❖ That the Office of Community Services would be returning to the Board with a request to the State to continue the program until the end of the year, after which the Commissioners will receive a grant application requesting expansion of the program.

In closing the Commissioners commended the members of the HotSpots Team for giving an informative presentation and for all the work and efforts put forth in making the project a success story.

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
INTRODUCTION OF SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PARTICIPANTS**

Present: Melvin McClintock, Director  
Michael Loghran

Mr. McClintock appeared before the Board to introduce some of the Summer Youth Employment participants: He stated that there were 69 participants in the program through a partnership with the Workforce Investment Act and St. Mary's Public Schools. Those present were: Randy Lawrence (Transportation Office); Scott Lefebvre (Library); Nekeisha Thomas (Risk Manager/County Commissioners' Office); and Kathy Bloomfield (Department of Social Services).

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JOHN F. GRAVES  
UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL PLAQUE**

At this time the Commissioners conducted a memorial service for Mr. John (Frank) Graves who passed away while in service to County Government in the Department of Public Works.

**PROCLAMATION  
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

The Commissioners presented a Proclamation designating August 1, 2000 as National Night Out in St. Mary's County.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Weekend Events**

Commissioner Raley noted the events that took place this past weekend—African-American Memorial Dedication; groundbreaking for Mechanicsville Fire House substation in Golden Beach; and Ridge Post 255 American Legion 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. He stated that these events demonstrated the true spirit of volunteerism in St. Mary's County.

Commissioner Mattingly stated that he also attended these events and congratulated each group for their accomplishments.

Commissioner Guazzo reported that she attended the Mechanicsville Fire House Substation groundbreaking; however, she was unable to attend the African-American Memorial dedication because she was attending Dr. J. Roy Guyther's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party. She noted Dr. Guyther's accomplishments and his numerous contributions to the community (that he returned to the county to practice medicine; brought four new doctors to the county; received American Board of Family Practice Doctor of the Year Award; and his work on historic preservation).

**Sustainable Community Planning Initiative**

Commissioner Anderson informed the Commissioners about the success of the Sustainable Community Planning Initiative conference that was held at St. Mary's College. He stated it was well attended, that there were *planning experts* from across the country, representatives from *the Department of Planning and Zoning, and the County Administrator*. A report on this planning effort will be presented to the Commissioners at a later date.

**Commission on Education Finance, Equity and Excellence**

Commissioner Anderson reported that public hearings held by the referenced Commission in Annapolis and in Hagerstown, and the issues are the same across the

State (Transportation and Special Education funding formulas). Some counties have had to raise taxes in order to meet their educational requirements.

### ULDC

Commissioner Raley stated that he has received a number of inquiries regarding the status of the ULDC. He stated that it has not gotten to the Board of County Commissioners from the Planning Commission; however, when the Board does receive it, it will be given high priority.

### Joint Meeting with Board of Education

Commissioner Randall advised that the Chair of the Board of Education, John Parlett, Jr., contacted her to discuss setting up a joint meeting between the two boards on the budget process. After discussion the Commissioners agreed to set up the meeting on a Tuesday in September towards the end of the day, so that they can visit Chopticon High School.

### **STATEMENT BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALFRED A. LACER**

Responding to recent rumors, Mr. Lacer announced that he was committed to staying in St. Mary's County through his family and career and that he was honored to serve the Commissioners and the dedicated county employees. He stated that it was his intention to continue serving in the capacity of County Administrator and that St. Mary's County is where he wanted to be.

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agendas for August 8 and 22, 2000
2. **Department of Recreation and Parks  
Wicomico Shores Public Landing Residential Trailer Lease Agreement**

Present: Phil Rollins, Director

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

3. **Procurement Office  
Award of Contract for Landfill Closure**

Present: Carol Gallagher, Procurement Officer

Ms. Gallagher appeared before the Board to request approval for awarding the Contract for the closing of St. Andrews Landfill to Great Mills Trading Post for \$2,536,468 pending receipt of a loan from Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund. She reviewed the chronology of events stating that the Invitation for Bid was issued on January 24, 2000, opened on April 6, contract was approved by Legal on July 21, and a price extension was accepted and guaranteed to October 3, 2000. The Department of Finance is in the process of preparing the loan application, which after review by the Legal Department, will be forwarded to the State for approval.

**After discussion Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve awarding the contract for the St. Andrews Landfill closure as indicated by Bid #SMC-01-DPW-2686 pending appropriation of funds and further to authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Application for Loan Funds once it is approved by the County Attorney and County Administrator. Motion carried.**

4. **Tri-County Animal Shelter Crematorium  
Funding Discussion/Decision**

Present: George Forrest, Deputy County Administrator

John Mudd, Supervisor, Tri-County Animal Shelter  
Also present: Ed Tucker, Chief, Animal Control Services

As a follow up to previous discussions and to the July 10, 2000 correspondence from the Department of Emergency Services of Charles County, Mr. Forrest and Mr. Mudd explained the cost breakdown for the establishment and operation of a crematorium for the Tri-County Animal Shelter. Set up costs for the crematorium is estimated at \$66,000, with an annual operating cost of \$28,000. St. Mary's share of these costs would be 37.7% (\$24,750 and \$10,500 respectively). Mr. Mudd pointed out that Calvert and Charles have approved funding for the set and operational costs of the crematorium.

**After discussion Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve St. Mary's County's participation in the funding for set up and operation of the crematorium for the Tri-County Animal Shelter. Motion carried.**

**5. Naval Air Test and Evaluation Museum  
Standard Option Contract with State Highway Administration**

**As a follow up to previous discussions and actions regarding the Naval Air Test and Evaluation Museum, Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to execute the Option Contract upon completion of the Contract at staff level, and further to approve and authorize the County Administrator and County Attorney to sign the Option Contract. Motion carried.**

**6. Emergency Services Committee  
Appointments**

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, and motion carried, to approve the following appointments to the Emergency Services Committee: John "Peanut" Gatton, George Kennett, and Robert A. Russell.**

**OFFICE OF CAPITAL PROJECTS/DEPT. OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
ST. MARY'S COUNTY AIRPORT ZONING ISSUES**

Present: Jim Stirling, Director, Office of Capital Projects  
Jon Grimm, Director, DPZ

As a follow up to previous discussions, Mr. Stirling and Mr. Grimm appeared before the Board to discuss the zoning designations surrounding the St. Mary's County Airport and measures to be taken to protect the airport.

Areas of discussion included:

- ❖ The AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone) designation for areas around the Navy air fields;
- ❖ Provisions in current draft of the ULDC for the protection of air space and insurance of compatible use and obstruction-free approach to the County Airport; an overlay will be incorporated into the ULDC for the description of the Part 77 surface (an imaginary surface for protection around the airport).
- ❖ That the issue of protection around Navy fields and county air fields be addressed separately in the ULDC; what needs to be done to protect the future of the airport and to keep the County's options open.
- ❖ That whatever is done for protection of the airport will be consistent with the Airport Master Plan, and whether an interim study should be done since it will take approximately a year for the Master Plan study to be completed.

- ❖ Protection actions could be acquisition of easements or outright acquisition of land.
- ❖ The need for adoption of the Airport Master Plan in order to be eligible for grant funds.
- ❖ The areas around the airport are zoned mostly rural, with other areas zoned as residential, commercial and industrial.
- ❖ Concerns about airport encroachment and issues of vesting rights

**After discussion Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to direct Mr. Stirling and Mr. Grimm to draft provisions to protect the Airport now by changing the draft ULDC, Chapter 44, to reflect standards applicable to civilian air fields, as well as standards that are currently in place for the protection of the Navy's air fields with regard to AICUZ regulations. Motion carried.**

During discussion the Commissioners agreed to place the discussion of these amendments as well as a decision on the Airport Master Plan study on the August 22 agenda.

#### **UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE STATUS**

Present: Jon Grimm, Director, DPZ

In response to the Commissioners' inquiry about the Planning Commission's progress on the ULDC, Mr. Grimm noted that the Commission has scheduled a work session on August 7 to begin reviewing the comments received during the open record period.

**After discussion Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to request staff to draft a letter requesting the Planning Commission to make a final decision on the ULDC at its meeting of Monday, September 25. Motion carried.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to meet in Executive Session on a matter of Personnel, as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1. Motion carried.**

#### **Personnel**

**Present:** Commissioner President Julie B. Randall  
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson  
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo  
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.  
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley  
Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

**Authority:** Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1

**Time Held:** 4:10 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

**Action Taken:** The Commissioners met with a candidate for one of the County's vacancies.

#### **SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

The Commissioners attended the various National Night Out activities with members of the Sheriff's Department.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by the  
Board of County Commissioners on 8/8/00**

  
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**Judith A. Spalding, Recorder**