

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
Tuesday, November 21, 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
Kate Mauck, 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. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, November 14, 2000, as corrected. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator

1. Draft Agendas for November 28 and December 5, 2000
2. Grant Documents
 - a) Walden/Sierra Inc.
Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA)

Present: John Norris, Assistant County Attorney

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign Grant Agreement. Motion carried.

- b) St. Mary's County Office on Aging
Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

Present: Gene Carter, Director, Office on Aging

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign Application and Agreement. Motion carried.

- c) St. Mary's County Office on Aging
Title III Federal Grants

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign Agreement. Motion carried.

3. Lexington Park Library
Mirror Image on Site - Modification of Project

Present: Richard Rohrbaugh, Director, Facilities Management

Mr. Rohrbaugh appeared before the Board of County Commissioners in order to present a request to change the plans for building placement of the new Lexington Park Library structure. Reasons for the request were outlined in a memorandum dated November 20, 2000 and were discussed in-depth. Commissioners expressed frustration with yet another delay on the project. The cost of accepting a mirror image on the site would be approximately one week worth of time and \$10,000 in funding. Commissioner Randall inquired as to the Library Director's opinion on this, and Mr. Rohrbaugh responded that she was very supportive.

The Board of County Commissioners directed Mr. Rohrbaugh to develop a firm timeline for the project and a date when the RFP would hit the street. These items should be submitted by November 28th, at which time Mr. Rohrbaugh will once again appear before the Board of County Commissioners. In addition, Mr. Rohrbaugh was directed to encourage the architect to add staff as needed so that timely drawings are presented in order to enable the library project to move forward more quickly. The Commissioners acknowledged that their frustrations were in no way reflective of disappointment with Mr. Rohrbaugh's performance. To the contrary, the Commissioners praised his abilities for to walk in so quickly and recognize a need for change of placement of the library on the property.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to direct Mr. Rohrbaugh to proceed with the requested proposal to change the building placement of the Lexington Park Library. Motion carried.

**AIRPORT MASTER PLAN STUDY OPTIONS
AIRPORT PROTECTION ZONE ORDINANCE (FOLLOW UP TO PUBLIC
HEARING)**

Present: George Erichsen, Director, Department of Public Works
Jon Grimm, Director of Planning and Zoning

Mr. Erichsen appeared before the Board of County Commissioners to provide follow up information on the November 14th presentation concerning the Airport. Mr. Erichsen was directed at that time to look at airspace and approach surface protection which was not currently in the Zoning Ordinance, to provide additional guidance *within the ordinance* to the Board of Appeals with respect to permitted uses in some of the airport overlay areas, and to obtain direction on proceeding with the Master Plan Update.

In-depth discussions took place concerning the clear-zone areas, areas 1, 2 and 3 of a detailed illustration, easements, Lawrence Hayden Road, as well as several other topics of concern.

After much discussion, **Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to adopt a plan and direct staff to work on establishing a runway with a distance of 5,350 feet total length; for the current alignment of the runway to remain as it exists; that in this review, staff address the access issues with Lawrence Hayden Road as it may be impacted; and that they also consider recommending in the proposal to adopt and develop plans for additional development of airport facilities within the confines of the current airport, not to exclude the possible acquisition of adjoining properties which may allow for future expansion of the facilities such as hanger space and other businesses that might locate at the airport.**

Commissioner Randall read a statement outlining her support for the extension of the existing runway to 5,350 feet, and the study of using part of the existing terminal building to house a restaurant facility, and the study of additional amenities to make this

airport a first class airport in the class in which it exists. This expansion approach would support a thriving general aviation airport, which would encourage tourism and a needed level of capability, particularly as regards commuter air-service needs, which has yet to be firmly demonstrated. Commissioner Randall stated that if even greater commercial capacity may become needed in the future, i.e., Class C Aircraft, it must be considered and planned for. She further stated that the current site is inadequate to meet these potential future needs, and that an alternative site should be explored, with adequate planning in place to meet those needs.

Mr. Erichsen was asked to look at having a second entrance to the airport so that there would be two separate access roads. Additionally, Commissioner Guazzo asked to review the scope of work for the Airport Master Plan.

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the Zoning Amendments as presented in this meeting to include changes recommended by staff, and that these Text Amendments be added to the current Zoning Ordinance as a working document as soon as the Commissioners have signed, subject to legal review by the County Attorney. Motion carried.

Mr. Erichsen was asked to put the airport illustration provided at the meeting directly into the Zoning Ordinance.

The Board of County Commissioners discussed the alternative site issue, as well as the limitations of the current site for significant future development. It was stressed that an overall Transportation Street Plan, including airport alternative site feasibility, continues to be a pressing need for the County. Commissioners expressed a consensus of approval on this issue. **Commissioner President Randall called for a vote on Commissioner Mattingly's motion, and the motion carried.**

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to incorporate as part of the future Master Transportation Plan, considerations of an investigation as to the best place to site a future airport that will handle larger Class C Aircraft. Motion carried.

WASHINGTON GAS EASEMENT AGREEMENT

Present: Richard Rohrbaugh, Director, Department of Facilities Management
Joan Lolcama, Department of Facilities Management
David A. Foggo, Jr., Manager, Public Affairs, Washington Gas
Willie Wilcox, Director, Business Development, Washington Gas

Ms. Lolcama appeared before the Board of County Commissioners to present a request by Washington Gas for a Gas Easement Agreement with the County on property owned next to Great Mill High School. Ms. Lolcama reported that the Department of Recreation and Parks had stated that the easement would not impact using or obtaining State funds for park usage at the site.

Mr. Foggo addressed concerns that the Board of County Commissioners had regarding the placement of the gas line. In particular, he was questioned extensively on the reasons for not planning the gas line along Great Mills Road. Mr. Foggo stated that it was not customary for a gas utility to run along public highways, and that cost was initially the only planning factor; however, time had now become the main factor of concern. It would cost twice as much to go around the easement, and the direction of the easement was still the shortest possible route that the gas line could follow. Washington Gas is a regulated utility and is mandated by the Public Service Commission to provide a safe, reliable product at a reasonable cost.

The Board of County Commissioners expressed further concerns about allowing the gas line to go through the easement, and felt there was a better way to accomplish what was needed. Mr. Foggo was asked to work on the language on item number four of the proposed agreement and the request for the Washington Gas Easement would be placed on a future agenda for reconsideration.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board

Commissioner Anderson reported that the quarterly meeting was held last week and the Board elected Mike Colina to serve as Chair of the regional board. Thanks were expressed to Mr. Colina and to Christine Wray, CEO of St. Mary's Hospital, who filled the role as Chair to the Board during its first year of existence.

Callaway Village Plan

A lively and spirited discussion took place during the Callaway Plan meeting last week. The Committee, staff and consultants will go back to the drawing board to re-work the proposal.

Thornton Commission

Commissioner Anderson reported on the November 20th meeting in Annapolis – input was discussed on the five public hearings that have occurred throughout the State in recent weeks. The Commission will not recommend State mandated on full-day kindergarten. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to accelerate the phasing of funding for special education and transportation, and that motion was defeated. He also made a motion to provide one full-time equivalent for those jurisdictions that are implementing full-day kindergarten. This motion failed as well, but it will be part of the overall consideration for the study on the impacts of full-day kindergarten. That should happen around this time next year. Commissioner Anderson also made a motion that funding for general transportation be augmented, in addition to the funding requested for disabled students, and that motion failed as well. The motions, although unsuccessful, did draw attention for discussion. Additional funding will hopefully come to local jurisdictions that will allow for flexibility of spending, and to be used as counties see fit, and not to be used for transportation and special education only. Additionally, the legislature will be able to revise the recommendations submitted by the Thornton Commission prior to making any final decisions.

Breton Bay Watershed

The public is invited to a meeting with and DNR to discuss the Breton Bay Watershed on November 30th at the Carter Building at 6:00 p.m. Discussion will cover Breton Bay as a Category 1 Watershed.

Maryland's Most Beautiful People

Commissioner Mattingly reported that he, Commissioner President Randall, and Delegate Bohanan attended the Maryland's Most Beautiful People recognition ceremony in Annapolis last week. Clancy Lyall was the individual recognized from St. Mary's County as one of Maryland's Most Beautiful People, and he is most deserving of that recognition for all he does for the County.

St. Mary's Hospital Ball

Congratulations were expressed to St. Mary's Hospital for the Hospital Ball recently held. There was a nice turnout and it was held this year in the County. Mr. and Mrs. Roger Hill, Christine Wray and the Board did a great job and they were sold out, which helped to raise funds for the Hospital.

Leonardtown Courthouse Relocation and Parking Issues

Commissioner Mattingly recently met with the Mayor of Leonardtown and his staff regarding evolving parking issues downtown involving the relocation of the Courthouse. They are working with our staff to resolve some of the issues, to include alternative parking scenarios.

Bay District Volunteer Fire Department

Commissioner Raley reported that the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department had a ceremony for the installation of officers and it was a very nice affair. Various other fire and rescue squads in the County will be holding ceremonies for the installation of officers during the months of December and January. These individuals do a lot for St. Mary's County and should never be taken for granted.

Holiday Greetings

Commissioner Raley wished the members of the audience a very happy Thanksgiving holiday. He stated that he considers Thanksgiving to be the best of all holidays; a time for sharing a meal with family and friends.

Maryland Association of Counties

Commissioner Randall reported that she was successful in getting MACo to provide the Public Information Act Seminar in Southern Maryland. They will be coming to LaPlata on January 4th for that seminar.

AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE UZE ZONE (AICUZ) DISCUSSION

Present: Patrick Murphy, Acting County Attorney

Mr. Murphy appeared before the Board of County Commissioners to provide a brief status update on a proposed adjustment to the Zoning Ordinance regarding AICUZ. The three major policy objectives the Board of County Commissioners had asked staff to look at were the issues of public safety and welfare, the ability for the mission to continue at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, and to insure that there was an adequate stock of moderate to low-end housing in the County. The proposed adjustment is still a work in progress and is not ready to go to public hearing. When the proposed final draft is ready, the County Attorney's office will bring the matter before the Board of County Commissioners, and they can decide at that time whether or not the matter is ready for the public hearing process. It is hoped that the Ordinance will be made available to public for review prior to the public hearing.

Commissioner Guazzo asked Mr. Murphy to research the following topics: Determine when a townhouse building unit is not considered to be a multi-family unit; and, in regard to the Livability Code and proposed Zoning Ordinance – they do not marry well – look to see if they should be separated.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM WORK SESSION

Present: Elaine Kramer, Finance Director

Ms. Kramer appeared before the Board of County Commissioners in order to discuss the Capital Improvement Program. Goals for today's work session were outlined, and the next date for discussions to continue will be on November 30th. Issues requiring resolution and recognition were outlined, and responses to previously incoming input and/or questions regarding the Capital Improvement Program were presented and discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to meet in Executive Session to discuss matters of Litigation and Personnel, as provided for in Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8 and 4-210(a)1, respectively. Motion carried.

Litigation

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
Patrick Murphy, Acting County Attorney
Jon Grimm, Director, Planning and Zoning (arrived at 4:30 p.m.)

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8

Time Held: 4:15 p.m. – 5:25 p.m.

Action Taken: Staff discussed a matter of litigation and received direction from the Board.

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: 5:26 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Action Taken: The Board of County Commissioners discussed various personnel items.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 12/5/00**

Kate Mauck

Kate Mauck, Recorder