

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORK SESSION**

January 27, 2003

Present: Board of County Commissioners
 Elaine Kramer, Director of Finance
 Jeannett Cudmore, Deputy Director Finance
 Al Lacer, County Administrator
 George Forrest, Deputy County Administrator
 George Erichsen, Director DPW&T
 Richard Rohrbaugh, Director Facilities
 Robin Finnacom, Director Lex Park Plan
 Donna Sasscer, Ag & Seafood Coordinator
 Phil Rollins, Director Rec & Parks
 Dan Carney, Board of Education
 Brad Clements, Board of Education
 Dr. Richardson, Superintendent, Board of Education

The Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Elaine Kramer addressed the Board and gave a brief overview of this session.

- (1) follow up for the next work session to be held February 3,
- (2) changes to requests/parameters of debt capacity and,
- (3) topical issues and update on state budget in upcoming sessions

SMCPS

The results of their public works appeal will not be known until May.

Projects

The state gives the schools a sq. ft. price in August to use in formulating costs of construction/labor.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Leonardtwn HS | - | stadium lighting |
| Forrest Tech Center | - | funding provided by cash flow/last of the local funds in 03 |
| Carver Elem | - | replacement cost revision increase due to change in sq. ft.;
no set departure date to remove school out of the AICUZ. |
| Mgt. Brent | - | sq. ft. increase; at end of Feb. the drawings go back into the
review process for redesign work; students will occupy buildings;
use trailers while work is underway; anticipate award project in
September; \$2M being appealed @ state |
| Ridge Elem | - | gym construction; there will be a 3000 sq. ft. allowance
with Rec and Parks for community activities; appeal has been
made but if unsuccessful, hold off on project; window renovation |
| White Marsh | - | window renovation |
| Oakville/Ridge | - | kindergarten additions + 6 classrooms + 4 classrooms in
later years
Bridge of Excellence mandate can be met on full-day
kindergarten. A kindergarten classroom is set up with
cooking space, bathrooms, and center areas, etc. 535 student
capacity per school includes kindergarten;
HVAC renovation @ Oakville |
| Mechanicsville Elem | - | roof renovation - Roofing renovations will be done in the
summer |
| Leonardtwn Elem | - | formula change went up about \$5.45 per sq. ft. last Aug;
relocatables will house students through renovation behind
Banneker; 12-14 months to complete project |
| Banneker/Loveville | - | called "Banneker;" roof replacement; |
| Springridge/Leonardtwn | - | both require roof + HVAC replacement (28 yrs.old) |
| Mechanicsville Elem | - | addition/renovation |
| Greenview Knolls | - | addition/renovation (defer out) |

Unexpended Funds (pink sheet)

ADA - no federal mandate exists with completion date. Long-term program – restrooms first and then playgrounds. Always looking for grant funding.
Greenview Knolls parking will go out to bid in the spring, completed by Sept 03.

Land Conservation

Donna Sasscer discussed the rural legacy in SMC. '04 CIP shows a decrease in funding of \$200,000. The Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust has worked up in the Huntersville area with grant funds. SMC's application for St. Mary's River Watershed was denied but will reapply. Funding may not be available anyway.

The county has participated in the Md. Ag. Land Preservation Program. 25 landowners applied for a total of \$10 million. FY03 on state level funds cut to \$666,000 and the county cut to \$333,000. '04 looks bleak so State may fund with bonds. There may be half or zero funding for MALPF as well. DPW may not be able to meet commitments to landowners.

The tobacco buy-out was going to be subject to appropriations and that the farmers did not trust State of MD. Farmers held out so bond funding was initiated. But that's not even a sure thing. Those who signed up for the fourth of the five year buy-out program will not be funded and State will not offer a fifth year buy-out. The Ag Cmte took a vote that tobacco buy-out farmers will be paid first. If we do away with the infrastructure program, then it becomes difficult to help farmers transition into other products.

Critical Farms – A revolving loan fund which allows the County to put temporary easements on a farm that will eventually be placed under easement through MALPF or Rural Legacy. The program has not been used.

Purchase of Development Rights – Recordation tax rate was increased and for every \$4 of every \$500; \$.35 goes to PDR fund. Last year those funds went to Ag Pres Pgm. This can continue or not.

Unexpended balances (pink sheet) will require a decision on February 3, by the BOCC.

Facilities

Unencumbered County Funds: Government Center Addition/Renovation, Former Lexington Park Library, Lexington Park Family Center Demolition, Emergency Communications Facility Upgrades.

FY04 government center building needs adequate space for depts. already in the building. Provide a new mechanical system to handle high humidity and temperature problems and add a meeting room.

New Public Facilities: St. Andrew Maintenance Bldg., expand Leo'town Library, adult detention center, Governmental Center addition, Tudor Hall Conf Center, feasibility study on Carter Elem. How will it be used by county? CSM wellness & pool, Health Dept. renovation, A/P improvements, Fire Rescue revolving loan fund, Garvey Center upstairs expansion with elevator, Marcey House relocation within 10-12 yrs., ALS expansion, central storage and receiving area for Fac Mgmt., Charlotte Hall library renovation, tourist information/farmers market front of Charlotte Hill Library, north county storage, add a library in California, 2nd floor archives renovation, parking, roof, and ADA compliance are ongoing projects identified each year.

Commissioner Jarboe recommended all buildings over 50 years old be studied by Historic Preservation prior to demolition.

Pink Sheet: Lex Park Library out to bid now
Lex Park Family Center is vacant and on hold (*over 50 years old*)
Emergency Communication Facility upgrades to provide security on standby
awaiting digital drawings

The Board's directions on how to move forward will be given on February 3, 2003.

Meeting adjourned.

