

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**

**MINUTES OF March 7, 2005**

**St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Rm. 14**

**Members Present:** David Deaderick, Chair  
George Baroniak, Vice Chair  
Joseph B. Bush, Member  
Arthur Goeller, Member  
Zora Siemasko, Member  
Susan Wolfe, Executive Secretary

**Members Absent:** Viola Gardner, Alternate Member

**Others Present:** Thomas F. McKay, President, Board of County Commissioners

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Deaderick at 2:03 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Gardner was unable to attend the meeting.

**PRESENTATION:**

Commissioner President Thomas F. McKay provided a presentation in anticipation of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions to be made in calendar year 2005. He stated that by the end of 2005, a significant BRAC list will be determined. The Board of County Commissioners wants St. Mary's County to continue to be a desirable place for the Navy to do business. The Commissioner then showed a video entitled "St. Mary's County... Embracing Progress" highlighting steps the County Commissioners have taken towards that end. Commissioner McKay ended his presentation by stating the value of volunteerism and his appreciation to the members of the Ethics Commission for their service.

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:**

Minutes of January 24, 2005. A motion was made by Mr. Baroniak to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:**

FDS Status: 253 FDS statements were sent, leaving a balance of 75 outstanding. 178 were ready for Commission review.

Review Session: Thirty-one statements for calendar year 2004 were reviewed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Revision to Ethics Ordinance: Mr. Deaderick read a letter from the Maryland State Ethics Commission regarding proposed changes to the county Ethics Ordinance. The State Commission approved the changes to Sections 5.D.2.e. and 5.E.4. After discussion, the Ethics Commission agreed to re-insert "compensated" so that Section 5.E.4. reads, "Within two years following termination of county service, act as a compensated representative of another in connection with any matter in which he/she participated substantially as a county official or employee." Mr. Deaderick will send a letter to Robert Hahn, General Counsel, Maryland State Ethics Commission, advising him of this decision, in time for the March 10 meeting of that Commission. .

Financial Disclosure Statement for Calendar Year 2004: A first reminder letter was approved. Reminder letters will be mailed by March 15, 2005.

E-mail correspondence: Members continued discussion regarding the responsibilities of the Development Review Forum (DRF). It was agreed to invite a representative of the DRF to the next meeting to help the commission members understand its role.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Baroniak moved to adjourn at 3:47 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.