

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

**MINUTES OF July 23, 2007**

**St. Mary's County Governmental Center**

**Members Present: George E. Baroniak, Chair**

**Arthur E. Goeller, Member**

**Terri Holder, Member**

**Warren Kunz, Member**

**Susan J. Wolfe, Executive Secretary**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Baroniak at 2:02 p.m. Mr. Bush could not attend the meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on August 5, 2007. Mr. Baroniak reported that a new Alternate Member, Robert Denning, was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. He further reported the selection of a new Executive Secretary, Darlene Jones. They will be present at the next meeting.

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:**

Minutes of June 18, 2007. A motion was made by Ms. Holder to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded and carried.

Minutes of July 9, 2007. These minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Request for Information from Commissioner Daniel H. Raley. Mr. Baroniak reported that the advisory memorandum and accompanying cover letter were provided to Mr. Raley who, in turn, thanked the Commission for its prompt response.

Lobbying. Mr. Kunz completed his review of the latest release of lobbying rules from the Maryland State Ethics Commission and it will be reviewed by each member of the Commission. Members also agreed that ethics training for the Southern Maryland ethics commission should be held sometime after September 22.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Request for Assistance from Anne Arundel County Ethics Commission. A request was received from Betsy Dawson, Member of and Legal Counsel to the Anne Arundel County Ethics Commission, concerning county deputy sheriffs working as private security, especially in establishments where liquor is served. That county's Sheriff's Department is not covered under their ethics ordinance. Members briefly discussed this issue and Mr. Baroniak will respond to Ms. Dawson's request. Members also agreed that an invitation should be extended to the Anne Arundel County Ethics Commission to participate in the proposed ethics

training for the Southern Maryland area. Ms. Dawson also expressed an interest in attending future meetings of the St. Mary's County Ethics Commission. Mr. Baroniak will extend an invitation.

Senior Property Tax Review Committee. Ms. Wolfe asked if the members of the newly appointed Senior Property Tax Review Committee should be required to file Financial Disclosure Statements. After discussion by the commission, a motion was made by Mr. Goeller that according to the Ethics Ordinance the members of this new committee should file. The motion carried, 4-0. A letter will be sent to Commissioner President Russell with copies to the Public Information Office and County Attorney notifying them of the decision.

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:**

Three statements were reviewed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Ms. Holder to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.