

March 5, 1963

Present: All commissioners, Mr. W. S. Donaldson, Mr. Oliver Guyther.

#### Bus Transportation

Mr. T. W. Briscoe, Dameron, Maryland, requested school bus transportation for his grandchild, from the St. Jerome's Road area to the Cardinal Gibbons School. Mr. Briscoe said he drives approximately 20 miles per day to reach bus pickup point. Mr. Burch will talk with Father Rock about this and see what can be arranged, and will also speak with the bus driver, William Porter, about this matter.

#### Juvenile Delinquency

Mr. Wm. Dubrow expressed concern in this area and felt something should be done to help alleviate this problem. He also suggested that a vocational training program might be desirable as this had proven successful in many other communities. He mentioned that there are many retirees in the area who might be willing to teach in such a program.

#### Civil Defense

Mr. M. C. Thompson presented the Civil Defense Budget and reviewed various items listed for expenditure, and explained procedures of the department. He is requesting an increase of \$300 for each one of the operators. Mr. Donaldson and the commissioners reviewed items individually as to increases over last year's budget.

Mr. Burch stated that according to remarks made at a Fire Board meeting, the Mobile Communications firm had not been paid for four months, and he wanted to know who made this statement. Mr. Charles Donaldson was named. Mr. Thompson said the services from this firm had always been satisfactory and that the contract expires July 1st. If the commissioners want a new contract, they should negotiate for one at that time. Mr. W. S. Donaldson said he had just received a copy of the contract made with the Mobile Communications people.

At this point Gen. Van Brunt and Major Ellis came in. Gen. Van Brunt is Director of Maryland Civil Defense. He explained in detail the aims and purposes of the civil defense program and said he wanted to get a program into each unit or county. Suggested various ways the program could be constructed. Mentioned bill requesting \$175,000,000 for air raid shelters in schools, and if passed, and the county has a school rated suitable as an air raid shelter, the county can ask for this aid. Said he approved of incorporating shelters in architectural plans for new schools. Mr. Thompson said there are adult classes in civil defense being conducted in the county right now, but added that the school children seem to know more about it than the adults.

#### Soil Conservation

Mr. Stevens and Mr. J. Dixon asked for an appropriation of approximately \$210 per year to cover expenses of this group. Explained they used to have some pieces of equipment which was rented to farmers, but cost of repairs on this machinery was exceeding rental income, and they are getting rid of it. Mr. Burch said he thought these people could find some other way to raise this money and suggested a charge be made for technical assistance. Mr. Guyther said this appropriation could possibly be made through the EDC. Mr. Stevens and Mr. Dixon will get information as to how other counties handle this and call Mr. Guyther.

Delinquent Statement

The sheriff presented a statement from The Enterprise which had not been paid for three years. This was for advertisement of personal property tax sale. Mr. Guyther said the attorneys who handled the sale should have taken care of this, and it should be ordered back as part of the court costs. The sheriff will do this.

Re-zoning Approval

The Planning and Zoning Commission asked for approval for public hearing to re-zone area from commercial to industrial, located on the north side of Great Mills Road. This is property purchased by Mr. Robert Feister from the Oscar Carle estate. Mr. Feister would like to erect two above ground tanks for fuel oil storage.

Permission was granted for publication of hearing date, April 2, 1963, at 10:00 a.m., at the regular commissioners meeting.

Roads

Mr. Stevens asked that the Hermanville Road be repaired and maintained as water from the nearby run continually overflows and washes out the road. Mr. M. Dixon owns this property and would grant permission for the county to move the road to alleviate this situation.

Mr. Bland wanted to know when construction would begin on the Luke Mattingly Road. Mr. Raley said this is a \$6500 job and he could not tell him when the road would be built. Yowaiski Mill Road - money had been appropriated to build this road and if these people find this road is not going to be built they will probably come to see the commissioners about it. Cost to do this road is \$3500, and the Langley Road, \$2,000. The commissioners were of the opinion that these roads should not be cut out of the program.

Mr. Guyther said the commissioners should make a statement of conditions of county roads to make everybody aware of the overall problem of the road situation. This problem is so serious he would like to know a great deal more about it before making a statement. He suggested freezing all funds and roads and hiring someone to study this problem and determine just how the county stands. Said he would rather see the money frozen and take advantage of the matching funds. He felt that even if the money for the Springer Road had been set aside, it should not be done, as it is foolish to talk about taking over a road and then rebuilding it.

Mr. Raley asked how it could be explained to these people that the road was not going to be built if the money is frozen? Mr. Guyther said he felt no roads should be built until the entire thing was programmed, as better results will be obtained if this is done on an overall basis. Roads are by far the greatest problem in this county.

Mr. Hall mentioned that a needs study was run on all county roads and this runs into millions of dollars. Mr. Raley took part in this study. Mr. Hall said it would be better to bring our roads up to standards and call a halt to construction. He also said that roads should come up to specifications before being taken into the county system. The standard is a 20 foot road. Mr. Hall said someone has promised these people that their roads would be built and this should be done. The Golden Beach Road has also been promised.

Mr. Raley said that 95% of the roads scheduled were completed. The build-up of the \$30,000 has been over a period of about 2 years. All of the roads listed are included in this amount.

Mr. Guyther said he thought the commissioners should be bound by what the needs study revealed in determining the order in which roads should be built. This money could be frozen, or the work promised by the previous commissioners could be done, then make it clear that you are not obligating yourselves to do any new construction until the survey is made. If the second suggestion is followed, some arrangement could be made to borrow the money to take advantage of the matching funds so we do not lose that. Mr. Hall said that federal aid will not participate in clearing and grubbing but will do grading as long as you figure out how many yards of dirt are going to be moved.

Chingville Road needs pipe to the water. Mr. Reggie Aud said he would buy the pipe if the SRC would put it in. Mr. Raley will check with this man tomorrow and do this. Mr. Nowell, McKay's Beach - to eliminate water condition here it would be necessary to ditch it so water could run into the river, at a cost of about \$120. Mr. Bowles will call Mr. Nowell and so inform him. St. George Island, Mrs. Lampkins Store - concrete pipe will be put in to alleviate flooding and if pipe is not available this month, it will probably be April or later before this can be done. This was approved by the commissioners.

Mr. Dennis Raley suggested that the best way to improve the road program and accomplish more and have a better system, would be for the commissioners to take over their own road program and separate from the state. He also suggested that the commissioners make their own road need study and this will be done at a future date.

He also said that a fence should be placed around the dump on Route 235 to keep the paper from blowing off the dump. Mr. Burch said this is something that should be looked into.

#### Bus Transportation

A family formerly living on the Seven Gables Road, and now residing in Town Creek, has requested that the school bus go as far as Tennison's Store for pick up of school children. The driver has agreed to do this at no extra charge. Mr. Burch will call Mr. Hebb about this.

#### Littering

Admiral and Mrs. Felix Johnson were concerned with accumulating litter on roads. Mrs. Johnson, who is chairwoman of the Garden Club, thought it would be a good idea for the club to sponsor an essay contest in the schools, offering a prize, on the subject, "How We Can Keep Our County Clean." Admiral Johnson suggested building cinder block enclosures containing large cans at various crossroads for trash disposal, and having trucks pick up such cans and deposit contents at the dumps. Also suggested signs be placed stating that fines would be levied on persons caught dumping trash on the roads.

### Control Center

Mr Charles Donaldson explained that the statement made concerning non-payment of the Mobile Communications invoice was made in reference to the previous commissioners. Mr. Burch said he would appreciate it if Mr. Donaldson would come to see the commissioners if he thought something was not being done properly.

The contract from the Mobile Communications Center was reviewed and Mr. C. Donaldson explained that this company makes one free trip and then charges mileage for all other trips. Parts and labor are free. Mr. S. Donaldson said this contract should be re-negotiated and Mr. Burch agreed. The commissioners agreed to pay the \$587.95 owed and this was done on Voucher #25099.

Mr. C. Donaldson said that the \$1000 withheld last year from each fire department is still in the budget. The fire departments were allocated \$2500 and were paid \$1500 of this amount. He also said that the only thing the Control Center would need to meet civil defense requirements is the 14 day fuel supply for the generators. Mr. Burch asked Mr. C. Donaldson to have the Mobile Communications Company send a statement the first of each month with supporting invoices.

### Deer Release

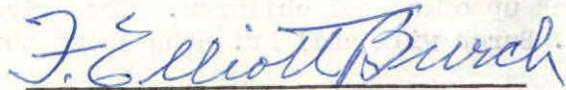
The Inland Game and Fisheries Department has reported that there are no deer available for release in the county at the present time. Mr. Philip Burch will be sent a letter to this effect. Also Mr. Elmer Johnson and Gilbert Dorsey.

### Road Study

Mr. Guyther suggested that the commissioners appoint a committee to study the roads and make recommendations on same. Mr. Ridgell suggested that the commissioners, Mr. Raley and Mr. Hall take a map and ride over the various county roads.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,



F. Elliott Burch  
President

March 5, 1963

Evening Meeting.

Present: All commissioners, Mr. Oliver Guyther, Mr. W. S. Donaldson.

Jean's Sportswear

Agreement provides that the commissioners will in effect relieve that property and corporation from real estate taxes in St. Mary's County for a period of ten years, on condition Jean's Sportswear remains here, and pays up the back state real estate taxes and back personal property taxes of \$423.31, and will effect this by inserting in the EDC budget annually sufficient sums for the EDC to pay these taxes. Mr. Guyther said there should be some minimum employment figure set, and perhaps 35 would be a reasonable number. Mr. Burch said if these people are going to stay here they are going to have to employ a certain number of people in order to exist.

Historical Society

The old jail building could be turned over to this society under certain conditions. It would be their obligation to restore, preserve and maintain the building, and could have the use of this building so long as it was used for their purposes. In the event it ceased to be used for their purposes, it would revert to the county commissioners. Mr. Guyther will discuss this with Miss Hoff and report the results of this discussion to the commissioners.

Humane Society

If the commissioners desire to withdraw from this agreement, a letter should be written saying that this contract will be terminated as of June 1, 1964. They should be notified this year so the other counties can decide what they are going to do. Thirty days after this the project will cease to operate. All of the equipment goes back to the county. The existing contract will be canceled as of June 30, 1964, under the Tri-County Humane Society Agreement dated June 7, 1960.

Budget

The proposed budget must be prepared and two hearings must be held before April 1. These hearings must be advertised two weeks in the papers. The old form of the proposed budget can be used as a guide and Mr. Donaldson can make this up in about a day. Next year the departments should be given notice as to when the budgets should be submitted. Mr. Guyther would like to see the proposed budget in by the first of next week and the advertisements placed in the paper on the 13th of the month.

At this point Mr. Donaldson came in and showed the commissioners and the attorney what he had in the budget so far. The budget was reviewed. These figures are the requested amounts.

Rescue Squads

The commissioners agreed to allocate \$1200 to each Rescue Squad.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,

*F. Elliott Burch*

F. Elliott Burch  
President

March 6, 1963

Special evening meeting.

Present: All commissioners, Mr. Oliver Guyther, Mr. W. S. Donaldson, Mr. Harry Ocker, Mr. David Gruber, Mr. Carl Mace, Prince Georges Comptroller, Mr. R. E. King, Mr. Bascom Broun, Mr. Charles Fenwick, Mr. Covell, Mr. K. Abell, Mr. Leo Young, Mr. Blakiston.

#### School Bond Issue

Mr. Harry Ocker, President of the County Board of Education, presided over the meeting at the invitation of Mr. Burch.

Mr. Ocker stated they were concerned with the school construction program, and a study was made to determine needs. Now the necessary steps must be taken to get the funds needed to build the schools needed. There are three particular schools. The School Board feels they are in pretty good condition in having available places to erect these structures. They feel they can definitely divert funds for the purpose of acquiring land. This money will eventually come out of the \$2,000,000 which will come out of the bond issue.

Mr. King said that ours is the most rapidly growing school system in the entire state and presented a sheet showing projected enrollments from 1963 to 1966. The schools might have to go on double shifts and this would present many problems.

Concerning floating a municipal bond issue, Mr. Mace said it is best to have someone handle this for you. There are certain resolutions required to pick up the bond issue, and procedure must be stipulated. It is advisable to hire a bond counselor to handle matters, and he coordinates all features for you. Since our county has not been in the market in the past, it would be necessary to contact a rating agency to have an interest rate established. Then the bond counselor will handle every aspect of the sale, and works on a commission basis, about 50 cents per bond. The bonds are 25, 30 or 40 year bonds. St. Mary's County basis is the 20 year bond.

Mr. Broun said that Mr. Buckler has been the bond attorney who has handled these sales locally. There have been 2 in the last 2 years. These were advertised in the Bond Buyer and had seven or eight firms bidding on them. His bank bought the last issue. This was done on a competitive basis, and they had not been in the market previously.

Mr. Ocker said we might be able to get a rating if we could point out our low rate of indebtedness.

Mr. Mace very strongly recommended Mr. Case, as he has worked with him. Mr. Case is familiar with all aspects of such transactions. Mr. Mace said a good bond counselor can establish credit ratings where none exists and so forth. He prepares the ad which is put in the local papers and in the Bond Buyer, and also negotiates for prices of printing the bonds. He also figures out how much payments are going to run. The schedule is prepared after the sale of the bonds.

Mr. Ridgell asked if the \$2,000,000 bond issue is floated, should this be done all at once, and is it to be spent in one year. Mr. Mace said you could go on the market twice a year, and stipulate at the time the \$1,000,000 is floated, that you were going on the market again in six months.

Mr. Ocker asked how much time is involved to get the bonds ready for marketing. Mr. Mace said four to six weeks would be ample time, and the advertising period is generally two weeks. After the bonds are sold, a redemption schedule is set up. If you sold \$2,000,000, you would have \$100,000 redemption in 20 years. Bonds do not come due for one year after the first bond is sold. Six months interest is due after six months.

Mr. Ocker said they were planning to use the incentive fund, and the legislature permits them to use this money. This was to lessen the burden on the taxpayer.

Mr. Donaldson stated that our basis this year will be about \$57,000,000. Mr. Ocker said \$108,000 would have to be raised. Mr. Mace said the first ten years of their bonds are bid at 5% and then they have gotten bonds outstanding in the 24th and 25th years at 1/10 of 1% interest. These bonds are practically given away, and there is no uniform scale of interest for the bonds. Interest must be paid within six months from date of issue, and 1/20 of re-payment is made each year. Mr. Ocker said that the incentive money could be used to pay interest on these bonds. Mr. Gruber said some commitment is needed from the Board of Education as to how much they will pay. Mr. King said some agreement would have to be made as to amortization.

Mr. Mace said this will be a large expenditure for the county and the bonds should be sold so that payments are due when county incomes are greatest. If the sale were on July 1st, \$30,000 would be due on January 1st, and the following July. Their bonds are in the denomination of \$5,000. This is done to break down the amount of paper to be handled, and it is easier to have them in multiples of five. In their last two issues there was a provision where the purchaser could take \$5,000 denominations or \$1,000 denominations.

Mr. Guyther read the law concerning bond issues and said it seemed we would have to increase our taxes thirty cents. Would this be required? Mr. Mace said no, when interest is calculated and redemption requirement for each year, you then apply what your incentive fund is going to be and tax for the difference. Mr. Guyther wanted to know if any school building incentive funds allocated to St. Mary's County were presently pledged. Mr. Ocker said they were indebted to the state loan board for \$2,000,000. The state sends incentive monies to us and we send principal payments due on that indebtedness. The commissioners have made this money up to us in the past. Last year the incentive fund was \$100,000. This comes in six payments and in the first two the deductions are made for the interest. Mr. Mace asked if the commissioners have to make up this incentive fund that is valid for the interest, and was told they did. The commissioners would be responsible for these participation loans and should include these in their next levy. Mr. Donaldson said this was included last year, and the county returned the \$25,000 taken from the Board of Education incentive fund.

Mr. Ocker said the \$2,000,000 would meet their immediate needs but they would need more in about two years. Mr. Mace said there would be some increase in assessments for added income. Mr. Gruber asked if the incentive fund provided \$100,000 would we have to do anything legally in order to budget this amount, do we have this flexibility, or is this loan an obligation of the commissioners?

Mr. Ocker said they would have to discuss this with their financial people. They would have to discuss with Mrs. Hayden what their new obligations would be, and what commitments have been made.

Mr. Broun said that assuming you sold these bonds in August, the first payment would be due in February. During that interval when do you close your budget and make your assessment? Mr. Gruber said the budget would have to be submitted by February 1st next year. Mr. King said this could be roughed up for them and they could get right on it and see what could be obligated. The incentive fund fluctuates and they have no idea of what it would be.


The \$2,000,000 bond issue would be used in about 14 months. The real problem will come in the second year. Mr. Fenwick said the 10 cents should go into the present budget. Mr. King said that Mr. Guyther could draw up a statement and at a Board of Education meeting they could give a commitment. Mr. Guyther will draw up the papers and this will be taken care of Tuesday. Mr. Donaldson will get together with these people and work this matter out.

Mr. Abell asked if anyone had given any thought to raising some form of taxes to defray this cost. Mr. Guyther said the law requires us to put this on real estate. Mr. Mace mentioned that a source of income is a transfer tax of 2/5th's of 1% of the value of every property that is transferred. Additional sources of revenues were also discussed, such as increasing tax on coco-cola and pepsicola.

Mr. King said that on next Wednesday a joint hearing was being held in Annapolis on financing education in the state. We are one of the counties which would benefit. We would receive more than we are currently receiving in the amount of \$208,090 for education. We could certainly work with the commissioners to lessen some of the burden and at the same time have funds to work our own program as it now stands. This legislation has a good chance of passing. They are asking the commissioners to pass resolutions to the effect that they are in favor of this legislation and pass this on to the other legislators. If the commissioners are in favor of this Mr. King said he would like them to let our men in Annapolis know this.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,



F. Elliott Burch

President