

May 7, 1963

Present: All commissioners, Mr. W. S. Donaldson, Mr. Paul Raley.

Health Department

Dr. Alan Houser presented Budget Approval Forms for the commissioners to sign, approving the 1963 - 1964 budget for the Health Department. Signed by Mr. Burch.

Office Business

Mr. Paul Raley reviewed prices of Burch & Wise as compared to the Lee-Marshall Company. Mr. Donaldson said it had been decided that we should get out of this contract and that it continues until cancelled. These people should be called and so informed before they shipped any additional stock, and Mr. Raley will attend to this immediately.

It was reported that Mr. Paul Bell had not brought in the corrective slips for his buses. Mr. Bell was telephoned and asked to come into the office to discuss this matter with the commissioners this afternoon at 1:15 p.m. He agreed to do so.

The Mosquito Control Program was reviewed and areas not included are as follows: Dameron, St. Jerome's Neck, Cornfield Harbor, Airdale Road, and St. John's Manor. There are 46 areas participating. Three trucks did this work last year and there will be one additional truck this year. Twelve new areas have come into the program this year. This entire program was reviewed and discussed as to those areas receiving the service and those who were not, and why. Compton has withdrawn and there is a possibility that Great Mills will also drop out. \$15,000 has been appropriated by the state, but only \$10,000 is guaranteed.

St. George Island

Mr. David Sayre, Mr. White, and Mr. Basil Holden requested that the first road to the left below Thomas' Store be fixed. This road is used extensively in summer and by the people on the island during the winter months. It is a county road and has never been graded. This will be discussed with the SRC today. If it is not in the county system, it will have to be deeded over to the county before any work can be done. The commissioners will get in touch with these men later.

Mosquito Control

Mr. David Shriver, Dr. James Foster and Mr. Ben Smith came in to discuss this program. Mr. Burch asked how the county stood concerning the budget. Mr. Shriver worked out a tentative budget at the present time in the amount of \$10,000. In our budget letter the county committed itself to \$6,000; \$5,250 to match local funds and the other \$750 for emergencies that might arise. The state was committed to \$12,000 and this figure will probably stand. \$31,270 is the total for temporary work and as this is figured closely, it might be risky to take in any new areas. \$9500 is the total county appropriation. The \$15,635 was reduced. Mr. Shriver presented a sheet showing how the figures were cut down from last year. The budget last year was \$10,410 and the county only put up \$3500, and the state around \$10,000 instead of \$13,000. We will just about come within this allotment of \$10,000 by the end of June which is the end of the season.

This program usually runs between 12 and 13 weeks, from the second week of June, and 4 weeks in July, 4 weeks in August, and 3 weeks in September. The couple of weeks in June accounts for the 13 weeks. 15 weeks is the maximum for the season. The county will have 4 trucks this year according to Dr. Foster.

Mr. Shriver said if he can work the Airdale Rd. area in the program it will be done. He said the Cornfield Harbor people told him they were not interested in temporary spraying but only in permanent work. This year all communities will be sprayed only once weekly, instead of twice. Dr. Foster stated that the state would put up enough to make a \$14,000 budget for permanent work, and this work consists of ditch treatment to kill the larvae and eliminating stagnant water.

A man should be hired to work on this permanent program and Mr. Smith is looking for a man to operate a backhoe for this job. This man would be put on a salary basis, 4 months on temporary work and 8 months on permanent work. \$400 per month was mentioned but this would be up the commissioners. Dr. Foster said he would supervise this man but the man would be responsible to the county and to the state. Sometimes you will have to resort to prison labor where a backhoe cannot be used, and this costs about \$.70 per hour. The man hired would be expected to work 40 hours per week. If the amount paid is \$4200 per year, this man will be making less than the other men working and yet he would be the supervisor. The men are paid overtime if they work more than 40 hours straight time. It would be best if this man was paid \$4800 in order to have him making more than his workers. It is the state policy to pay what is the wage average in the local area. New employees are paid \$1.50 per hour. The man who is paid \$2.00 per hour is also responsible for the truck and is also in charge of the paper work for that particular truck. The minimum age requirement is 18 years, and this includes the helpers. The salary for the permanent man would be charged to the temporary program. The drivers are paid from the county payroll and then this amount is charged against the bill when the allotment is settled at the end of the year.

Mr. Burch asked if the gentlemen would take the list of prospective drivers and make a choice. Mr. Smith said he would prefer interviewing these people before hiring them. He will report his findings to the commissioners next week.

Mr. Shriver said it would take about three weeks to decide if the areas not included could be included later on. There is no chance of getting another truck this year. Mr. Burch said he would like the trucks to work 45 hours instead of 40 in order to get in these extra areas. Mr. Shriver said he will work this out as best he can. It was stated that the commissioners pay for the gas and oil for these trucks and this money is paid back by the mosquito control people.

School Bus Inspection

Mr. Paul Bell came in as requested and was given a list of defects found in his buses and Mr. Burch asked what could be done to correct this situation. Mr. Bell said that some of the defects had been corrected, the turn signals were all right and that one glass had been hit by a BB rifle and this cracked it. He said he had not gotten refills for the first aid kits but they were ordered. He said that everything on the list had been corrected. Most of the work is done at his home and he also keeps the fluid for the fire extinguishers there. Mr. Burch asked that all defects be taken care of by next week.

Roads

Mr. E. K. Bennett said his road, Hardcorner or Bennett's Drive, needs fixing. He has been many years trying to get this road taken care of. All the necessary papers had been signed but still nothing had been done. This is a county road and it was requested that this road be fixed if possible. Mr. Burch will take this up with the SRC people.

Mr. D. Bond, Mr. D. Raley, Mr. T. Hall, and Mr. Hamilton, Federal Liaison Engineer were present for discussion. Stated that there is \$54,000 which must be programmed before July 1, 1963. Mr. Bond stated that Mr. Thompson wanted to get all the federal aid possible. Mr. Hamilton said that the roads program is actually due on December 30 of the previous year, but he had willingly waived this rule. 50% participation includes right of way, engineering, and construction. A bridge could be programmed to receive 50% of the cost from the government, also. Work can be done by force account or by contract. In force work certain things are excluded such as headwalls, clearing and grubbing, with the exception of earth work. Government pays 50% on this type work. On contract work nothing is excluded providing all specifications are met as required by the state. A full time inspector would be needed for this.

50% will be gotten back on the Chaptico Road, about \$10,000. Federal participation can be obtained on a heavily trafficked road for widening and improving. 40' is the legal right-of-way, and Mr. Hamilton said he will stick with this in this county. Mr. Hall said there were several roads being planned for rebuilding and he was told we must have a 50' right-of-way. Seven Gables Road, Willows Road and St. Andrews require a 50' right-of-way. Over 400 cars calls for a 22' pavement and 8' shoulders. Over 800 cars would require a 60' right-of-way. The road must be 20' wide regardless of traffic count. When a road is programmed it must be stated what type of road you are going to have. Mr. Hamilton must approve this and it must be built the way it is programmed or you will not get any money. The minimum is a 20' roadway and 4' shoulders, preferably 5', and the right-of-way is a minimum of 40' in all cases. The exception would be going through a town and would warrant special consideration if necessary. This is up to 400 cars a day. 400 to 1000 cars would be a 22' pavement and 6' shoulders. These standards have been accepted by the government. The commissioners would set the speed limit.

Roads should be set up to meet standards and then taken from there for federal aid. Plans are submitted to Mr. Hamilton and he submits them in a rough copy to the bureau, then he rides over the road and inspects it. The bureau approves or disapproves and Mr. Hamilton records it. If it is a force account the money is tied up right then. If by contract, not until the bids are received. Mr. Bowles said that perhaps we could build without federal aid and it would be cheaper for the county.

Over 1000 cars requires a 24' pavement and 8' shoulders. If you get a road in this category you might be able to exchange it for some other state road that is not being used too much. Concerning the dual highway coming through Mechanicsville, the commissioners might get our senator to use his influence in this matter.

Mr. Hall said the Willows Road should have top priority, and also the Chaptico Mechanicsville Road, and Seven Gables Road. The Chaptico Road completed was \$46,000 and we will get back \$15,000.

Mr. Hamilton said the commissioners could go into the bond money for matching funds. He said the county should begin their own roads department by hiring an engineer and a right-of-way man. This would be a big step in the right direction. The engineer could do the job of the right-of-way man and this would necessitate hiring only one man. Mr. Hamilton reviewed a plan for setting up a roads program and the commissioners agreed to have him do this for St. Mary's County. The information for this comes from the cards written up as a result of the needs study made in 1962, by the Planning and Program Division of the SRC.

Mr. Hamilton said that about \$16,000 of the \$54,000 had been programmed. The Chaptico Road was programmed by the previous commissioners. If \$108,000 is spent for the roads, \$54,000 will come back to the county.

Senator J. Frank Raley, Jr., came in at this point.

Mr. Hall said a road such as the county would build would hold up in the Golden Beach area. The road would be built to a standard that would come up to specifications. He reviewed priority list with the commissioners and suggested where more right-of-way is needed. On the Morganza Road there would have to be reconstruction before blacktopping. Compton Road should be right at the top of the list as this is a busy road and is in very bad condition.

The commissioners mentioned the Bennett Road and the road on St. George Island as requested this morning by Mr. Bennett and Mr. Sayre and a delegation from the island. Mr. Raley will check the Bennett Road and report back to the commissioners.

Mr. Hamilton said if the Willows Road is started and cost more than the \$52,000, the over amount can be taken out of funds. Willows Road will be first, the Seven Gables Road second. On Clarke's Landing Road, additional right-of-way is needed and this will have to be gotten.

The plans for the Sandgates Bridge were very elaborate and were returned for simplification. The plans are being revised for a cheaper bridge. A bridge was suggested by a district engineer as there are tidewaters here and this must be done by an army engineer.

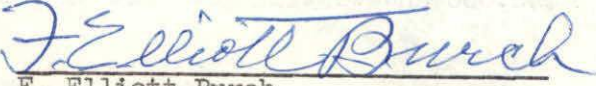
Slot Machines

Senator Raley made a statement concerning the governor's veto of the slot machine bill #407. Mr. Guyther suggested a change in the wording of the statement, to be released to the press, as to the duties of the inspector and that the local licenses should be purchased now.

Meeting next week will be on Monday, May 13th, as Mr. Burch will be out of town on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,


F. Elliott Burch
President