

July 19, 1963

Special Meeting held on Friday.

Present: Mr. F. Elliott Burch, Mr. C. H. Ridgell, Mr. W. S. Donaldson, Senator J. Frank Raley, Jr., Delegate Henry J. Fowler, Mr. W. M. Loker, Jr., Mr. G. Sparling, Mr. K. Duke, Leonardtown Commissioners, from the State Roads Commission, Mr. John Funk, Chairman-Director, Mr. A. S. Gordon, Mr. C. L. Wannan, Mr. R. J. Haysjk, Mr. W. Jabine, Mr. C. Bates Chaires, Mr. Paul J. Bailey, Mr. M. C. Thompson, Mr. T. Hall.

Roads

State Roads Commission requested this meeting to report on things being done in connection with the needs study. Mr. Funk stated that a "go" program was requested and when this program is completed 90% of everyone in the state will be within five miles of a good road. He reviewed expenses involved and said they wanted to come up with a money figure that would set up a responsible way to accomplish the end result of this program. Wanted to fit problems into an overall program for the next twenty years.

Senator Raley asked if the SRC ever thought about running efficiency checks on maintenance offices throughout the state. Mr. Funk stated that they watch at all times to see that everything is done in the most efficient way, and are constantly attending seminars, doing research, etc., to obtain the best results with the best possible methods.

Mr. Wannan stated that an increase of 50% on all registrations of vehicles would have produced about \$6,000,000 several years ago. At today's level it would produce about \$10,000,000. This legislation did not go into effect. The bond money realized this year will go toward bond issue of last year. The funds are encumbered one year in advance. In the next two years there will be no expected increase in revenues, because any increase from these sales will be taken up by the increase in cost of the debt service. However, the interstate program will continue and the primary federal aid program will continue. St. Mary's County has no benefit from the interstate program. The county will receive about \$880 per mile under the existing formula. These funds are charged with your share of the debt service. Bonds will be sold in early August and proceeds gotten around August 22. There will have to be a continued sharing in these costs at the county level. The 12 year program is running out.

The needs study showed need for \$34,000,000 for construction and reconstruction on state roads, and \$10,000,000 on county roads. In the municipal area \$248,000 and \$44,000,000 is total for all of St. Mary's County.

Mr. Haysjk stated that the Patuxent River crossing is beyond the 20 year period, and that they are coming up with a definite 4 year program, and if the need for this crossing is there, it could be placed back on the construction program. Copies of the needs study will be sent to the commissioners. The committee, when making the needs study, to forego developing roads for industrial and recreational purposes but to bring the existing roads up to standards to take care of the existing conditions.

Mr. Loker stated that the by-pass for Leonardtown had been discussed and the town commissioners were interested in this, and asked what the SRC is doing about it. He wanted to know where it would be and what it will consist of. Mr. Bailey said he did not think any further decision had been made about this and that nothing had been done or said since some years ago, in 1955. Mr. Loker requested that the town commissioners be informed as to any proposals which would concern Leonardtown, and was told this would be done.

Senator Raley asked about the dual lane highway from Waldorf to Lexington Park. Mr. Funk said that the commitment made was that everything would be under contract during the 5 year program. There are 2 years yet to go. The 1963 program is to 488, advertised August 15th, and our present dual to 235, July 23rd.

Mr. Funk said there would be no objection to the "go" plan being changed to the road from St. Mary's City through Ridge, as requested by the commissioners in a letter to the SRC some time ago.

Some decision should be made about the Forest Park area. Senator Raley discussed this with Senator Parran and local officials in Charles County and they agreed to go ahead with this. Senator Parran will write to Mr. Funk about this.

Senator Raley asked the SRC to advise the commissioners whether it would be best for them to build a better county road and then afford to maintain it. Requested that engineers of the SRC look into this and see how this could be handled at the least expensive cost. Mr. Funk said Mr. Chaires can handle this. Copies of information sheets for each road in the county will be sent to the commissioners and will reveal how the roads should be done.

Mr. Chaires said he thought the Piney Point Road was critical and every effort would be made to fix it by the fall of this year.

Mr. Funk said the program for this county will be printed and copies sent. Said he hoped to have this by October 1st.

Estimated cost on the Piney Point Road is about \$30,000, putting a couple inches on the right side coming out and will drop the thickness down on the other edge.

Senator Raley asked about the second Bay Bridge. Said he was interested in the one location site in Calvert County, as this would effect our county. Mr. Funk said all crossings will be considered, and probably would be bridges at all three locations, eventually.

Litter problem was discussed, and ways and means of correcting it.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,

F. Elliott Burch

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President