

September 5, 1967

Present: All commissioners.

Parks and Recreation

After general discussion the commissioners agreed that the portion of the expense account submitted by Mr. Curley for August that is his salary, should be sent to him, as this is a set amount formerly agreed to.

Health Department Parking

The commissioners agreed that "emergency parking only" signs should be placed in the front of the Health Department building in Leonardtown.

Board of Education

Dr. R. E. King, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Donaldson. Reviewed letter from Smeallie, Orrick and Jenka, giving three estimates for the electrically operated door to be installed at the Chopticon School. Series M - \$15,260; Series L - \$18,480; Series L - \$19,690 (vinyl covering). (Detailed estimates in files.) Dr. King and Mr. Dodson both agreed that the levelator would be desirable for ease in opening and closing the partition, and they would also like this feature installed on the door at Great Mills High School. It was decided to use the Series M door with the levelator, making their request for funds \$8,621, with \$1,000 additional to install a levelator at Great Mills.

Discussion concerning using the same plans for all schools, and Dr. King said that if the sites were the same, this could be done. However, the architect usually designs the school to fit the site. In any instance, the services of an architect would be needed for supervision while the building was being constructed.

The commissioners agreed to grant \$9,621.00 to the Board of Education as requested.

Roads

Mr. Pantaleo and Mr. Guyther discussed matter of request to buy two lots in the Blackstone Subdivision, by Mr. C. Kopel who lives across the road from the lots. These are in the name of J. Jenkins, and were sold to the country at a tax sale, but the county has never taken title to same. Mr. Guyther advised that the commissioners can sell these by private sale or by advertising. The commissioners agreed that this property should be advertised.

Mr. Donaldson came into the meeting, and there was general discussion concerning the proposed county road system, such as building needs, personnel, etc., and whether employees should be under the merit system. Mr. Donaldson said it is his opinion that the commissioners have the authority to exclude any department as a whole, but not just a portion of said department. He will contact the state and find out if the county can set up the road system without placing the employees under the merit system. (Review of Code revealed that said employees would have to be under the merit system.)

Mr. Pantaleo reported that a Mr. J. Goddard has requested that a hoist for lifting oysters in and out of the boats be placed on the Tall Timbers Wharf. After general

discussion, request was denied. He also reported that the state will pay \$2,000 toward the Tall Timbers erosion work that has to be done. The remaining \$8,000 could be paid out of the maintenance money for this project.

St. Andrews Road project is ready for acquisition of right of way. Mr. Pantaleo has talked with Mr. Richard Cooper about doing this work, and he is willing. The commissioners mentioned Mr. F. Wilkerson who might be considered to do this work, as he knows the people who live on the road. The commissioners agreed that \$2.00 per hour, plus mileage would be paid for this work.

Mr. Pantaleo mentioned meeting he has been invited to attend in New York in October. He has also been invited to an engineers meeting in Ocean City, but would rather go to the former meeting, as he feels it would be more beneficial. The meeting would last three days. The commissioners agreed that Mr. Pantaleo should attend the meeting in New York.

Rescue Squad - Lexington Park

Messrs. J. Kinary, Maguire, Keehan. General discussion concerning property given to the squad, in Patuxent Park, and need for access road. They are requesting that the commissioners build the road to the property, as they have not been able to acquire any right of way to the property. They have been given cinder blocks to construct the building, and promised a bulldozer to level the road at no cost. They have also had doors and windows donated.

Besche Company has purchased the land fronting on their property and they are going to contact Mr. Besche in the morning to inquire about right of way through it. They will also contact Mr. Curley and report back to the commissioners with their findings, as they are anxious to get the building up before cold weather sets in.

Airport

Messrs. C. A. Norris, A. Briscoe, R. Gabrelcik, R. Changler, T. T. Pantaleo, and O. R. Guyther. Mr. Norris discussed matter of \$150,000 allocation to St. Mary's County for an airport, and fact that if we do not meet the schedule requirements, this will be cancelled. Also stated that Mr. Luttrell, a member of the Airport Committee, is no longer in the county, and the commissioners can decide if they want to appoint someone to replace him, but they do not see any need for this.

Mr. Norris said that FAA wants us to go ahead and get an engineer, draw up specifications, and acquire the land. Mr. M. Dean was to have been at this meeting today but is ill. However, he is still willing to donate the land he owns that is available. This can be part of our share, but Mr. Norris does not know if we will be limited to the \$16,000 for land acquisition as stated in the letter. It was his understanding that an appraiser would value all the land and this would be our share.

The committee is recommending that the county continue to use the services of Rader and Associates, as they are highly qualified and have done an outstanding job so far. The committee prefers the land site on Route 235, as this is the best location, being near the railroad and a main highway, and it is also outside of the navy flight pattern. Mr. Norris also mentioned that St. Mary's County has first

priority for an airport in the entire state.

So far as the site is concerned, they would like to have five to six hundred acres, as it will take approximately 230 acres for the airport facility alone. The runway will be 3200 feet originally, and can be added to later on. So far as maintenance is concerned, this cannot be determined at the present time. Mr. Norris stated that the committee is planning to visit other airports that would be comparable and get as much information as possible about such airports. He did say that there is usually an Airport Commission that runs the airport.

Mr. Chandler asked if they should go ahead and instruct Rader to proceed with the plans, and stated that their fee will be \$15,000. We have already paid them \$3,000 and this will be part of our allocation. The plans will have to be prepared by January 1, 1968, so that bids can be gotten and work can be started when the weather permits. This is required by the FAA.

A Mr. Starling, who owns some of the property at the Rt. 235 site, said he will negotiate with the commissioners for the sale of same. Mr. Norris pointed out that the commissioners have the authority to condemn land for the airport if necessary. Mr. Guyther suggested checking to see if the money is still available from the state. Mr. Norris said that it was still available, and has been committed, as the federal government will not grant any money unless the state money has been so committed, and the state money is a loan. If we can indicate that we are moving, we can get an extension of the time limit from the federal government.

After further discussion, Mr. Burch and Mr. Aud said they are in favor of the airport, but would like to know how much it was going to cost the county. Mr. Bowles stated he would abstain from voting either for or against the project. Mr. Norris asked for the authority to say that the county will pay the traveling expenses for someone to come from Rader and Associates, to meet with the commissioners. They will be coming from Florida. Mr. Burch and Mr. Aud agreed, as there is still \$2,000 remaining in the allocation made for the services of this firm. The committee will get as much additional information as possible and report back to the commissioners.

Scholarships

The commissioners agreed that the one year scholarship to St. Mary's College that was declined by Philip Abell, should be awarded to Cynthia Mora of Lexington Park.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,

F. Elliott Burch

F. Elliott Burch, President