

May 7, 1968

Present: F. Elliott Burch  
 J. Wilmer Bowles  
 George R. Aud  
 Oliver R. Guyther, Attorney  
 W. S. Donaldson

Meeting convened at 9:30 a.m.

St. Mary's River Watershed

Messrs. James Beavan, John Hall, St. Mary's County SCS; Guy Rogers, William Krebs, Dept. of Game and Inland Fish; George E. Wheeler, David K. Bowen, SCS, College Park, Md.; E. Heath, R. Baliko, Dept. of Forests and Parks; R. S. Norton, Jr., Dept. of Water Resources; Wm. L. Etzler, State Planning Dept.; Walter Miles, St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission; Benjamin Beavin, Joel Simonds, Beavin Company; Wm. B. Groome, County Supv. FHA; B. Smith, County Ext. Service; John Marren, University of Maryland; J. W. Henderson, J. B. Norris, Irving Hewitt, Robert Thompson, SMC Watershed Committee; Paul R. Raley, Adm. Assistant; T. L. Cryer, County Inspector; T. T. Pantaleo, County Engineer; Fred Seiling, Dept. of Chesapeake Bay Affairs.

Mr. Thompson stated that they have a fairly good idea of what it will cost for this project, but there is a large percentage of land-owners who will donate, but there is also a percentage that will not. The purpose of the meeting today is to try to determine the matter of payment for the project.

Each department representative present was then called as follows:

SCS - Mr. Bowen said it is generally agreed that Site 1 would be a 250 acre lake, and GIF are interest in this site. Site 2 will be about 310 acres for the lake. We must now make a decision on the structures and whether or not they are wanted.

Mr. Wheeler reported they have not changed any of the details of the site that were acceptable, but have made adjustments with the land rights. They have worked with the committee and the agencies to adjust these lines within the framework of PL 566, particularly around Site 2, which is the recreation site. They feel sure they now have what should be on the land rights map. They need to know the cost of the land rights, and will have to work with the county to determine a figure for the purchase of the land. On Site 2, size and location are firm. Mr. Bowen had suggested building dams at Sites 3, 4, and 5, Jarboes Run, above Chancellors Run Rd., St. Johns Creek, and Lennie's Creek. Mr. Wheeler said that these five structures (including 1 and 2), would control about 70% of the sediment that goes into the river. They are making sediment sampling studies, and hope to get an idea of what this is. They have completed their engineering survey and flood study so far as the flood prevention is concerned. The flood prevention costs can be justified. It is



their opinion that the county should at least consider Site 3, if they cannot carry out 2, 4 and 5. Site 3 should be considered as the flood prevention alone would be worth it. They not need some decisions to know how to proceed, and hope this meeting will lay the groundwork for such decisions.

Mr. Wheeler said they have not done detailed surveys on Sites 3, 4 and 5. If these are going to be considered seriously, they will have to get more details. This will hold up the plan if these are included, but they should be considered, and he must know if the commissioners want to include these three surveys.

Mr. Thompson said that on Sites 3, 4 and 5, at a meeting of the steering committee with the commissioners, it was voted that these sites would not be considered at this time if it required additional county money. They felt that the county was going as far as it could financially with Sites 1 and 2. If Sites 3, 4 and 5 would be justified with the money coming from state and federal levels, we should go ahead with this. Apparently Mr. Wheeler had not be informed of this.

Mr. Wheeler said that even though this decision was made, Site 3 should be considered even though the funds are not available now. It should be included in the plan at a later date. Mr. Bowen said that the responsibility would be additional if the other sites are built, and there is no way to get around this. He said he felt this could be included in the plan and not built immediately. They could set up two construction units, with somewhere between 5-10 years for the second unit. He stated it is very difficult for them to go back and get authority to change a plan, and everything feasible should be included in the original plan. It could be dropped at a latter date, but would be difficult to add. It is his recommendation that all sites be planned. Mr. Wheeler said that Site 3 provides the most significant contribution to the project, and he feels would be worth whatever is put into it.

Mr. Burch asked if Site 2 could proceed and hold up on Site 1. Mr. Wheeler said they feel that these two should go together. The commissioners can set their preference for what they want done first, and in a short time the other one could be built. Construction would take about 18 months.

Mr. Bowen said they are operating under PL 566, principally for flood protection, and in this case the commissioners can provide a public watershed association and can set benefits and levy taxes to pay for the local costs. The county can get a loan from FHA and this can be repaid as the taxes are collected. However, they cannot assess payments by evaluating the benefits to the land. He cited one case where this was not allowed, as the work plan did not set out any benefit evaluations. They do not plan to do this on these projects either, and Mr. Wheeler said he would not recommend anything like this. Mr. Guyther said that as the commissioners are operating under PL 566,



they have the authority to proceed as they are. However, he feels that the commissioners could still levy taxes to recoup the money that will be spent.

Game and Inland Fish - Mr. Rogers asked Mr. Wheeler to let him know what information he needs. He stated that access to the lake will be only at designated areas, and they will not allow a property owner to have a public concession in these areas. Capt. Henderson said it was his understanding that one pier would be allowed for every property owner. Mr. Rogers said this was true, for the use of the family, but not for the general use of the public. He will have to look into this and work out the details.

Mr. Bowen said that on Site 1, the county would acquire the minimum taking lines, and that Game and Inland Fish would pay the local share of these costs. Mr. Thompson said this was correct.

Forests and Parks - Mr. Heath said they are involved in all PL 566 projects, and on this project the state was approached and asked if they might be interested in sponsoring Site 2. After an investigation, it was 14th in a total of 67 projects, so it would have some merit. The project was put in their overall priority list, and in their budgeted program last year, \$250,000, and this was approved and the money is available. They have not programmed any development at this time. They wrote to the commissioners about what the contributions should be, and the county wrote back that they agreed with these computations, except the cost of the dam. It has not been resolved whether or not the state will pay the entire cost of the dam. They have developed some preliminary cost estimates. So far as private development is concerned, on Site 2, if the state is going to be so deeply involved, they are going to have some serious reservations about subdivisions close to the lake. This is a problem we must face now.

Mr. Heath reviewed letter sent to the commissioners in November 1967, which was actually a letter addressed to Mr. Wheeler, for signatures by Mr. Burch, etc., to show what they had in mind. He said that the county will be given back 50% of the land acquisition costs up to 310 acres. These costs are for the recreation pool itself. Forests & Parks has not yet agreed to pay the local construction costs. They have a plan prepared and have cost estimates, and have to resolve some of the problems. Mr. Heath said that the state will acquire the 2300 acres if the park is all around the lake site, and Mr. Bowen said this would be the fair market value payment for the land.

Mr. Burch asked if this entire program could be coordinated to determine the entire cost and what the county cost would be. Mr. Bowen said that once the commissioners have agreed on what they want, this can be done. Mr. Burch said that the commissioners must know what the cost estimate is first before they can do anything. Mr. Bowen said if they can have an agreement on the land rights figure, and this is what it will cost to acquire the land, they will have a firm figure.



Chesapeake Bay Affairs - Mr. Seiling said they are involved in this by being asked to make estimates on actual value to the oyster economy and the lessening of the silt load coming into the river. There is some value because of this, but they cannot put down in actual dollars and cents what it is as there isn't that type of information available now. They do know that silt ruins oyster beds, but no one has ever come up with any cost estimates on this. On Sites 3, 4, and 5, they have some reservations that this could be a problem with the spawning grounds for certain types of fish, but they cannot assess these exactly.

Water Resources - Mr. Norton said that starting this year, this department has a program of cost sharing with local people. This would be the area that Forests and Parks would be sharing, that is the minimum flowline and the cost of the dam. The intent of their program is to encourage and assist the local people in the 566 Program. They have no intention of getting into recreation or wildlife. They are limited to the cost of the dam, the area around it, or impounded by the dam, and the flood control portion of the dam. They will participate up to 50% of this cost. That is 50% of the local share. He will have to evaluate how they will fit into this program. Under 345 they could possibly participate in this, but a more detailed study will have to be made. Mr. Seiling stated that Mr. Ellis has reservations about 345, and needs more information before a final opinion could be given. They are not making a study at the present time but hope to get started in the very near future.

Beavin & Company - Mr. Beavin said he is making a report that will be due on July 1, 1969, the Master Plan, therefore they are interested in this project. Sites 3, 4, and 5 have no significance from the water supply and sewerage standpoint. The two larger sites will be involved with the general development of the county plan. He asked if any provision had been made for water supply storage and use, and Mr. Wheeler said no, they had no one to advise them of this need. Mr. Beavin said that once the dams are built, the only way we could develop water supply would be by raising the dams. He urges that consideration be given to getting enough land to raise the water level and, if possible, design the dams so that they can be raised. Mr. Beavin also urges that provisions be made that water be drawn off from the bottom or the middle and not from the top. Also, with the amount of development that will be taking place, it might be wise to have silt traps to prevent too much going down into the river. Sooner or later we will want to recharge wells with this water, and there should be a minimum let down not only in this stream, but in every one that is in the county. The people who know about these things feel it should not be allowed to go below 90% at any time. Mr. Beavin recommends that the commissioners bear this in mind in approving any projects, that a reasonable amount of water be let down to take care of the people below the lake. Mr. Seiling stated that he is in accord with this idea of a minimum runoff being mandatory, and Mr. Wheeler said that there is such a provision made in all the



dams that are being constructed, or at least in some. Mr. Bowen said that if the 90% flow level is desired, this can be maintained. However, the Department of Game and Inland Fish would object to a cold water release because of the effect on fishlife. Mr. Norton stated that what Mr. Beavin is speaking about is an improvement to the condition for releasing the water. If the county wants to pay for the addition of Mr. Beavin's ideas they would encourage this.

On acquisition of land, Capt. Henderson said they are working with the tax maps, which in some cases, are not up to date. Those people they have talked with have indicated they will sell at a reasonable figure, or donate based on what their benefits would be. Capt. Henderson said that they hope to know what these will be after this meeting, and the people will not sign the option to purchase agreement until they know what the firm plans are. General discussion, and it was feeling that no one can determine whether or not the taxes would be increased if the lake is constructed.

Mr. Guyther suggested making a decision as to what is to be built, then getting all of the property owners together to explain it to them, and answer all questions. Then the people who will be involved can make a decision as to whether or not they will donate the land or be paid for it. The actual area to be acquired might be outlined and appraised, then a determination could be made as to what the cost will be.

Forests and Parks - Mr. Heath said that he doubts if his department will take over this entire project, and Mr. Hall asked how they could get a decision on the dam. Mr. Bowen said that the figures are firm. The only thing in doubt is the land rights. Assuming that the \$200 per acre figure is firm, the estimates are the same. There was some discussion regarding the land purchased by the state, and Mr. Heath said that the request to purchase this acreage came from a local level. Mr. Burch said that this is what is causing the problem, since the state agreed to buy this property for a park. Mr. Hall said that it was a private individual who made the offer to the state, and Mr. Heath said this was true and it was not initiated at the state level.

Mr. Burch suggested that all phases of the entire project be coordinated, indicating how much each department is contributing, how much land is needed, etc., and then have another meeting. As it is, there does not seem to be any meeting of the minds. Mr. Thompson pointed out that as a matter of record, that the county is going to provide the land for the minimum taking line. Mr. Hall mentioned that the problem is that with the state offering the amount of money it is paying, the people are not going to be willing to take the \$200 per acre being considered by the county. Mr. Norton suggested that the state buy all the land, and the county put their share in. Mr. Etzler said he agreed with Mr. Bowen about appraising the land, and trying to buy it at this figure if possible.

Mr. Guyther stated that if a meeting of the property owners is called,



a figure could be set to pay everyone if they are not going to donate the land. Mr. Heath said that the price established for the acreage being purchased by the state was set by an appraiser. Mr. Bowen said there is no set time for completion of the projects at the present time. As soon as the county has acquired the land, then the procedure is begun.

It was agreed that all agencies present would get together with the Watershed Committee and work out a coordinated plan and come back to the commissioners.

#### Piney Point Waterway Improvements Bid Opening

Mr. McGeady, representing Imbach; Mrs. Crandell, Mr. Mark Pratt, Mr. Pantaleo and Mr. Paul Raley. Bids opened as follows: Crandell: \$200 check, 1) \$3750, 2) \$5600, total - \$9350. Imbach: \$200 check, 1) \$4500, 2) \$11,990, total - \$16,490. Pratt: \$200 bid bond, 1) \$3150, 2) \$5150, total - \$8300. Pratt was low bidder. Mrs. Crandell and Mr. McGeady left the meeting.

#### Bushwood Waterway Improvements (meeting continued)

Mr. Pantaleo informed the commissioners of the bid submitted by Mr. Mark Pratt for the improvements to be made at Bushwood, as follows: Item 1. \$2,255, Item 2. \$5,500, Item 3. \$3,300, total of \$11,055. Bids for this project were opened on April 23rd, and advertised as required by law, and Mr. Pratt submitted the only bid. General discussion of this project, and Mr. Pantaleo suggested eliminating the jetty and shortening the bulkhead. This could be done in two projects and get both under the \$5,000 appropriation from the state. Mr. Pratt suggested dredging just an area about 40 feet wide into the boatramp. Mr. Phipps (CBA), might allow us to come in for the rest of this after July 1st.

General discussion regarding moving the ramp over nearer to the wharf and eliminating 20 feet of the bulkhead and jetty. Mr. Pantaleo and Mr. Pratt will work this out and report back to the commissioners.

#### Civil Defense

Mr. O. Wood, Major Ellison, Mr. W. S. Donaldson. Mr. Wood said they are trying to figure out how they can get the most money back from the federal government. By using the classification the state uses, their salaries are higher, and if they can get away from this, they do not have to comply with it. Mr. Donaldson said that the classifications we are using are the ones the state put on these people before we even had a merit system. Major Ellison said a job classification was set up just for these people, but the only ones we now have on the state level are emergency people and the salaries do not correspond with the county salaries. Mr. Donaldson reviewed manner in which the men were classified, and stated that the operations officer and the communications officer, at the present time, are



classified at Grade 9, even though according to the state, they should be at Grade 6. Major Ellison said they could work this out so that the men would have to take a professional examination. Mr. Donaldson pointed out that the state has said that these people are under the State Merit System and are not County Merit System employees.

Mr. Wood said they are not asking for any more money, but only to reclassify several men to keep the federal participation. Major Ellison said he is suggesting the three top men for the reclassification, and the commissioners would establish the wage scale and he is assuming it would be the same as it is now. If this is done, the federal government would pick up half of the salaries. Mr. Wood said he would need a letter stating that his office is exempt from the state scale. Mr. Donaldson said that the state will have to reclassify these men if the county cannot do so. Major Ellison also said that if Mr. Charles Donaldson is classified as an assistant operations officer, the salary would be approximately \$7200. At the present time, just Mr. Wood and Mrs. Bailey qualify for federal funds. He further stated that they will probably use the job description that the state uses and lower the qualifications. Mr. Burch suggested having all four of the top salaried men take the professional examination.

Major Ellison mentioned that we will now be getting money for the maintenance in the operations center, which we did not formerly receive. It is only the transceiver that we cannot get matching funds for. The commissioners will discuss this matter further and advise Mr. Wood of their decision.

#### Regional Detention Center

Mr. Egeberg, Jail Inspection Officer for the state, discussed proposed detention center for the southern Maryland area. According to a report made, our jails handle the majority of offenders and all types are confined in the same place, and this might be the situation that creates a criminal type reaction, especially for first offenders. The program being considered would install some type of classification in this respect. The smaller counties cannot afford such a program in most cases, so the state will obligate itself up to 50% of the construction funds. They had requested 50% for personnel, but this was taken out of the statute authorizing this facility.

Mr. Egeberg stated that the counties operate with a residency operation, and this is obviously not a good program, as there is no way to know what is going on in the jail at night, when there is no supervision. Eventually they want to have a supervision program to improve this situation. He said that if the commissioners can see value in a regional detention center for the three counties, it would be staffed with two persons around the clock. We would still need the jail for a temporary lockup until prisoners are brought to court, but they could not stay overnight. Mr. Bowles pointed out the fact, that under such a system, every time a state trooper made an arrest it would be necessary to take the prisoner up to Hughesville or



wherever the detention center would be located, which would be time consuming and expensive.

Mr. Egeberg said that as the law is written, there are minimum standards set up for all local jails in Maryland. If the subdivision does not comply with these standards, the state can give them 180 days to concur. If it does not, the inmates will be transferred to another institution and the county would pay for this expense. He recommends that the commissioners have an open mind on this and sit on the selective committee. It will be strictly the decision of the commissioners to go into this on a local level. There is a possibility that Prince George, Charles and Calvert Counties will enter into a joint program. There is nothing mandatory that says the county has to participate in this program.

On costs, Mr. Egeberg said that the state and federal governments will share construction costs equally, at 50%. So far as maintenance is concerned, this would be handled at the institutional level. There should be an advisory committee composed of persons from the three counties involved, to act as overseers. The cost of operation would be based on a pro-rata use by the county. There would have to be a base maintenance rate set up which would be pro-rated over a period of years, and it would cost x number of dollars whether we use it or not. These details would have to be worked out.

This would be a ten man operation that would be responsible for the security of the institution and the men, and might also act as correctional officers. There will be two men on duty at a time. There usually is a cook who is a supervisor and the inmates sometimes work in the kitchen in this capacity also. There would be one maintenance man, and a parttime social worker. The center would be for both males and females. The simplest way to handle the employees would be to have them under the State Merit System, and the county would reimburse the state for salaries paid.

Mr. Burch asked about possibility of training the prisoners at the proposed center, and Mr. Egeberg said this is highly probable. The point is, that we must help them recognize that they have a responsibility to the community, and try to teach them to be a benefit to society rather than a hindrance. Mr. Egeberg said he would like to make an inspection of our facility and will possibly do this tomorrow. He feels that personnel wise, there are some shortcomings in our jail in the way of 24 hour supervision, but the building itself is very secure.

#### Bushwood Waterway Improvement

Mr. Pantaleo and Mr. Mark Pratt returned to the meeting and reported they have proposed changes to move the ramp nearer to the wharf, cut the dredging down about 50%, and delete 20 feet of the bulkhead. These changes will reduce the cost for the ramp and bulkhead to \$5,000, and the dredging to \$1,125, a total of \$6,125. After discussion, it was agreed that the wharf would be left where it was first proposed, and build the entire bulkhead, eliminate the jetty



and dredge an area 40 feet by 100 feet, at a total cost of \$6,500. This total includes the wing on the end. Contract awarded to Mr. Pratt, and Mr. Pantaleo will draft the document including a release of liens clause.

#### Dent Road

The commissioners agreed that this road should be placed in the county system, running from the Burch Road, 1235 feet in length and 40 feet wide.

#### Nicolet Park

Mr. Paul Raley and Mr. Pantaleo. Mr. Pantaleo said they have \$8,000 to work with and Mr. Wise has agreed to take the first three items of the contract. They are leaving out the equipment, but Mr. Curley wants to take the balance of the money and use it to hire maintenance men to fix up the equipment they have there now as some of it is in good condition. The commissioners agreed that this work should proceed in the amount of \$7,182, the contract price for Items 1, 2, and 3, as proposed in the bid submitted by Mr. Wise on April 16, 1968.

#### Piney Point

Mr. Pantaleo will speak with Mr. Mark Pratt tomorrow and have him come to the courthouse one day this week to discuss the contract for this project.

#### Roads

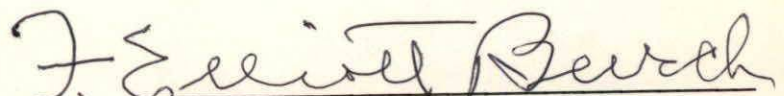
The commissioners agreed that the Seaside Road, Tracy Gardiner Road, and James Road, should be surface treated.

#### Hancock Building Permit

Mr. Pantaleo reported that they have an application for a building permit for placement of a building on  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre of land in Hollywood. The Health Department has approved a privy, but Mr. Pantaleo is very much against this. After discussion, the commissioners agreed they would not approve this unless Mr. Hancock acquired more land.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Approved,

  
F. Elliott Burch, President