

June 20, 1968

Present: F. Elliott Burch
J. Wilmer Bowles
George R. Aud

Watershed Meeting

Mr. John W. Hall, SCS; T. T. Pantaleo, County Engineer, Mr. George Wheeler, SCS; College Park, Md.; James Beavan, St. Mary's SCS District; David K. Bowen, SCS, College Park, Maryland; J. R. Goldsberry, Game and Inland Fish, Guy Rogers, GIF; George B. Shields, GIF; James L. Weems, GIF; Mr. D. Williams.

Mr. Hall mentioned meeting with Mr. Ellis, Department of Forests and Parks, to determine if they could reach an agreement on what was to be done on Site 2. Mr. Ellis stated that if the county will put up a certain amount of money and let Forests and Parks take the project from there it would expedite matters, as they have a process for getting land that would be a lot simpler than the county trying to get it. Mr. Ellis will acquire the land for one site and the additional land for a park around it. If the land costs more than the county has appropriated, then Forests and Parks will put up the money. If it costs less, then the money will be used for the park.

Mr. Bowen said that on Site 1, 475 acres, plus 52 acres of flowage easement are needed. This does not include any land for parking, etc., but is just for construction and spillage area. The only figures they have on cost is \$84,000.

Mr. Shields asked if any of the land had been donated or purchased on any of the sites. Mr. Burch said that there was one tract that was donated on Site 2, but these people have now changed their minds and we do not actually have a deed, just an agreement. Mr. Shields mentioned necessity for acquiring land around the lakes in order to control them. If the public cannot be controlled around the periphery of the lake, this breeds nothing but trouble. Mr. Bowen said that this would be taken care within the minimum taking line. Mr. Shields said they had made a commitment to be included in the cost of the compoundment. He asked if any of the properties have been transferred within the last few months from a speculation standpoint. This might be checked out by the county records. He also stated that they cannot exceed the appraisal price so far as purchasing the land is concerned.

There was discussion about the value of the land, and Mr. Hall said he has heard people who are knowledgeable in this respect, state that this land is not worth over \$200 per acre. Very little of it would even be tillable, and there are no houses very close to the area. This is on Site 1. On Site 2, the land is better and has a more desirable potential for development.

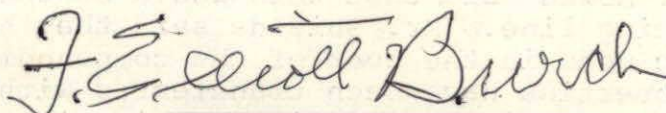
Mr. Shields said he will go to his commission and explain this, on July 1, and they will either approve or disapprove it. He asked how long it would take the county to begin, if he wrote a letter. Mr. Bowen said that after the agreement is made the work plan has to be made and approved by congress. However, we can begin purchasing land any time after the project is approved. Mr. Shields said that assuming his agency approves their buying the land, the county makes a flat sum of money available, how soon could the county state this, so that the project could get started. Mr. Bowen said that the county can borrow money from FHA, and whatever rates were in effect would prevail, but the county would have to have an approved plan before the money could be borrowed. He stated that this will probably be ready for congress to approve next session, not this session. After the project is approved there must be money available from FHA, and it would be a minimum of 18-20 months if everything is approved.

Mr. Hall stated that we are thinking of terms of \$250,000 for both sites to be borrowed from FHA. Mr. Wheeler stated that clearing costs are one of the very high costs in construction. The cost estimate needs to be revised but they will need more information before this can be done.

Mr. Shields said he will give the county an answer on the first week in July about the participation by the Game and Inland Fish Commission. Under this plan the county would furnish \$100,000 and Game and Inland Fish will take care of the rest. He said that they could take the \$100,000 and work here and it might be less than this.

Mr. Bowen mentioned that they have a crew down here working on the three smaller sites that were discussed. They are making field surveys on the ground, and they are thinking in terms of getting just easements for these sites.

Approved,



F. Elliott Burch
President