

County Commissioners MeetingTuesday, July 28, 1970

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

Paul R. Raley, Administrative Assistant  
 Helen M. Bailey (Mrs.), Admin. Asst. (Recording)

The Board of County Commissioners convened at 10:05 a.m.

The minutes of the previous meetings held on July 7, 14, and 21 were read, amended, and approved.

Payments Approved:

Vouchers Nos. 37302 through 37362 were signed by Mr. Burch.

\$851.87 to County Commissioners of Charles County, St. Mary's share of Animal Shelter Expenses January 1, 1970 through June 30, 1970.

\$2,545.00 to Delahay Boat Yard for work at Tall Timbers, week of Monday, July 20 to Friday, July 24, 1970.

Metropolitan Commission

Mr. James A. Kenney, attorney for the Metropolitan Commission, was requested to appear before the Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of briefing them on the status of the \$50,000 bank bond issue loan which he was arranging for the Metropolitan Commission, as part of the purchase of the Patuxent Water Company by the Metropolitan Commission. Mr. Harris Sterling, Director of Finance, suggested that we have a commitment on this \$50,000 from the bank so that the question would not be left undocumented. Mr. Kenney stated that Charles Fenwick of the Maryland National Bank was not interested and would not consider it without deposit. Joe Gough at the 1st National Bank of St. Mary's advised Mr. Kenney that they could handle it one way or another and work with the Citizens National Bank. In answer to Mr. Burch's query, Mr. Kenney said that if the purchase of the Patuxent Water Company was not approved by the State, that he "assumed" everything would revert back to the Patuxent Water Company and we (the Metropolitan Commission) would have a lawsuit on our hands.

Mr. Burch stated that the Board of County Commissioners would appreciate being apprised of the daily progress of the whole situation involving the Metropolitan Commission and Mr. Kenney stated that he would keep them so informed.

Nursing Home Board

Mr. Rodman Coad of Charlotte Hall and Mrs. Nancy Virts of Mechanicsville were requested in writing to serve three-year appointments to the Board of the Nursing Home.

Tri-County School Bus Transportation to Ryken High School (Parochial)

Brother Cornelius of Ryken High School appeared to request advice and assistance concerning a transportation problem which exists in transporting out-of-County students to Ryken High School. It developed that none of the three Counties involved is authorized by legislation to transport inter-County. Brother Cornelius stated that the facilities at Ryken were being expanded to accommodate more students, thus relieving the St. Mary's Taxpayer -- but that Ryken would be unable to afford to purchase an additional bus to provide inter-County transportation for the students -- some of which wished to come from as far as Waldorf.

Mr. Alex Loker counseled that St. Mary's was prohibited from providing transportation to out-of-County students even if they were picked up at the County line, and suggested the possibility of exploring the public transportation system for an accommodation. Mr. Paul R. Raley asked if there would be any possibility of changing the law so that Ryken and St. Mary's Academy could be accommodated in this matter. Counselor stated that it would be too late to do anything like that for the coming school year, if at all. Mr. Loker stated that we would definitely need to have special legislation on this subject in reply to Brother Cornelius' request that something be worked out for next year.

### Traffic Problem at Entrance to Ryken High School

Mr. Alec Loker, Counsel, outlined a traffic problem which exists south of Leonardtown on Route 5 at the entrance to Ryken High School (Cedar Lane). It was suggested that a storage lane be provided and that a flashing light (similar to the one installed in St. Mary's City at St. Mary's College) would assist in controlling the situation. The traffic entering Route 5 from Cedar Lane is hampered by limited vision both ways and the traffic is zoned at 50 mph in this area. It was agreed that a letter should be written to the State Roads Commission requesting an investigation and the installation of remedial measures. Brother Cornelius stated that Ryken would be willing to allow some landscaping on the steep bank (their property) which contributes to the problem.

### Rental of Vehicles for Sheriff's Department

The Board of County Commissioners, having agreed to rent two cars for the use of the Sheriff's Department until bids for 1971 model vehicles can be let, reviewed proposals from three dealers concerning the temporary rental of vehicles:

Aldridge Ford -- \$158.00 per month plus \$1.00 per day each vehicle for insurance.

Fenwick Ford -- \$100.00 per month plus \$1.00 per diem or be responsible for the first \$100.00 deductible plus .08¢ per mile.

Patuxent Motor Sales -- \$175.00 per month -- all insurance and gas to be furnished by the County.

The Board of County Commissioners awarded the car rental contract, effective August 1, 1970, to Aldridge Ford, Inc., the low bidder, and requested Mr. Paul R. Raley to document the terms and conditions and to complete the record by asking Aldridge Ford to write a letter confirming their bid.

Oliver Guyther, Esquire re Cherbonnier vs. the  
Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Oliver Guyther appeared to brief the Commissioners on the recent bilaterals he has been conducting with Mr. Victor Cherbonnier re joint conveyance of property near the Father Andrew White Memorial. Mr. Cherbonnier still objects to the plat drawn up by J. R. McCrone, Jr., Inc., but has advised Mr. Guyther of his willingness to the mutual transfer of properties simultaneously. The Board of County Commissioners asked Mr. Guyther to draw up the appropriate deeds for presentation and signature and to report back on the results of this effort.

Roads Meeting

Commissioner George R. Aud brought up the subject of the security light which the residents of Patuxent Park had requested be installed, at their own expense, on a light pole on County right-of-way. Mr. Burch and Mr. Aud agreed that Mr. Paul R. Raley should make the necessary arrangements and agreement with the SMECO for the installation of this light since it will serve the public interests and be at the expense of the residents of Patuxent Park.

The Board of County Commissioners requested that a load of gravel be put at the entrance to Nettie Raley's residence on St. Jerome's Road.

The Board reviewed a letter received from John A. Chappalear who lives south of Tall Timbers stating that his property is being destroyed by water which comes in behind his sea wall by way of a broken down mound of black-top installed by the State Roads Commission. Mr. Wagener and Mr. Bond were requested to investigate the matter and report back to the Board of County Commissioners.

Arthur R. Amrein

Mr. Arthur R. Amrein who lives in the Brook Bryan Development at Potomac Shores appeared to request paving of approximately 100 feet of road which is in the County Roads System and which has been appropriated by his neighbor, Mr. Wilfred Chesser, as part of his yard -- shrubs and trees having been planted on it. A full report of confirmation was received from the County Engineer,

Mr. August H. Wagener. Upon unanimous consent, Mr. Burch advised Mr. Amrein of the Board's decision to pave the 100 feet of road. Messrs. Wagener and Bond will cooperate in this matter.

Mr. Paul R. Raley was requested by the Board to contact Mrs. Pullman to obtain a price on 24 well-rings for Fresh Pond Neck (off Hayes Beach Road). The SRC was requested to install them when purchase and delivery arrangements have been completed.

The Board approved the proposal submitted by Messrs. Bond and Wagener for painting closed lane lines and stop signs on the roadway directly in front of the Courthouse.

#### Director of Finance

Mr. W. S. Donaldson explained the procedure for arriving at the numerical evaluation of Mr. B. Harris Sterling's eligibility for appointment as Director of Finance, which was supported by official documents from, and under the regulations prescribed by, the Secretary of Personnel, State of Maryland. Mr. Donaldson certified to the propriety, under the County and State Merit Systems, of appointing Mr. B. Harris Sterling as Director of Finance, to become effective July 27, 1970. Commissioner Aud motioned, it was seconded by Commissioner Bowles, and carried unanimously by President Burch, to appoint Mr. B. Harris Sterling as Director of Finance, effective July 27, 1970. The necessary official documents are so recorded in St. Mary's County and with the Commissioner of Personnel.

#### Proposed Sale of County-owned property to James M. Bannagan

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed to offer Mr. James M. Bannagan, of Colton Point, lots 42 and 43 of Block 38 sold for taxes on December 17, 1934, and which were bid in for the County for back taxes in 1932. The Board agreed that although there is no record of a bid being received from Mr. Bannagan at that time, there is no reason to doubt that he made an offer. The taxes on the property held by the County for 35 years amount to \$215.60. Since the County never took title to the land, and the lots are only 25 feet wide, bordering the Bannagan property on each side, Mr. Wigginton counseled that it would be appropriate to offer the land to Mr. Bannagan for \$215.60. Mrs. Helen M. Bailey was requested to communicate this information, in writing, to Mr. James M. Bannagan and to advise the Board of his reply.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Approved,

*J. Elliott Burch*

Director of Finance

Mr. W. S. Donaldson explained the procedure for arriving at the numerical evaluation of Mr. J. Elliott Burch's eligibility for appointment as Director of Finance, which was supported by official documents from and under the registration jurisdiction, the Secretary of Personnel, State of Maryland. Mr. Donaldson carried to the property under the County and State Merit System, or appointing Mr. B. Harris Henning as Director of Finance, to become effective July 27, 1970. Commissioner and mentioned, it was endorsed by Commissioner Bowles, and carried immediately by President Burch, to appoint Mr. J. Elliott Burch as Director of Finance, effective July 27, 1970. The necessary official documents are so recorded in Mr. Burch's County and with the Commissioner of Personnel.

Proposed Sale of County-owned Property to James M. Bannerman

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed to offer Mr. James M. Bannerman, of Colton Point, Lots 42 and 43 of Block 28 sold for taxes on December 17, 1954, and which had bid in for the County for back taxes in 1952. The Board noted that although there is no record of a bid being received from Mr. Bannerman at that time, there is no record to doubt that he made an offer. The terms on the property held by the County for 25 years amount to \$112,500. Since the County never took title to the land, and the lots are daily 25 feet wide, but during the Bannerman process on each side, Mr. Bannerman suggested that it would be appropriate to offer the land to Mr. Bannerman for \$112,500. The Board of Commissioners was requested to communicate this information, to which Mr. James M. Bannerman and to advise the Board of the results.