

Board of County Commissioners Meeting

Tuesday, December 22, 1970

Present: George R. Aud, President
 J. Wilmer Bowles, Commissioner
 J. S. Guy, Jr., Commissioner
 Robert E. Wigginton, County Attorney
 Paul R. Raley, Administrative Assistant
 B. Harris Sterling, Director of Finance
 Helen M. Bailey (Mrs.), Admin. Asst. (Recording)

The meeting came to order at 9:55 a.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting which was held on December 15, 1970 were not read.

Payments Approved

B. F. Asher, Contractor, for installing fence and post
 on Golden Beach Road-----\$750.00

Tall Timbers Shore Erosion Project

Southern Maryland Wood Treating Corp.-----1,296.40
 Delahay's Pile Driving Service, week of
 December 7 - 11, 1970-----1,345.00

Bussells & Company, Larredore Road Improvements
 Office Engineering 28 hours @ \$8.50----- 238.00

Personnel Actions

It was unanimously agreed to concur with the recommendation of the State Department of Personnel and to reclassify Mrs. Carole Garner from Clerk Typist "A" at Salary Grade 3 to Clerk Typist "B" at Salary Grade 4.

It was unanimously agreed to concur with the recommendation of the State Department of Personnel and to promote Mr. Paul R. Raley from Administrative Assistant B at Salary Grade 9, Step 4, to Administrative Specialist II at Salary Grade 11, Step 1; to carry the Administrative Assistant B position as a vacancy; and that Mr. Raley's new position be entitled "Administrative Officer".

Commissioner J. Wilmer Bowles motioned, the motion was seconded by Commissioner J. S. Guy, Jr., and carried unanimously to retain W. S. Donaldson for an indefinite period at a per diem rate based on his Merit System grade allocation on a consulting basis to the Director of Finance and the Board of County Commissioners.

It was unanimously agreed to provide interim assistance over the Holidays to the Jailor by employing Judge Clarence S. Dodge, on a part-time basis, at \$2.75 per hour, commencing immediately. Judge Dodge will relieve Mr. Gatton of Jailor duty at 4:00 p.m. and remain on duty in the Jail until the early morning hours. In the meantime, the Director of Finance was requested to establish position descriptions and appropriate salaries for three employees to become Jail Attendants so that a security guard will be maintained for the Jail, on rotating shifts, on a 24-hour basis. Upon submission of Mr. Sterling's recommendations, the Board will take appropriate action.

Security Wall for the Jail

President George R. Aud requested Mr. Paul R. Raley to work in collaboration with the County Engineer and/or a local contractor and to produce a workable solution to the security problem which exists on the east side of the jail. The Board of County Commissioners has in mind the construction of a protective wall or fence which would obviate the possibility of any type communication being conducted between the inmates of the Jail and persons on the property surrounding the Jail.

Delinquent Property Taxes -- (Mortgagees of the Farmers Home Administration)

Messrs. William Groome of the FHA and the County Treasurer, Mr. Francis G. Cecil appeared to outline a plan of protection to insure the payment of delinquent property taxes owed to the County by the mortgagees of the Farmers Home Administration. It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation of the FHA whereby the FHA would guarantee payment of the taxes to the County by presenting the Treasurer with a voucher certifying payment to come from the FHA (usually within three weeks). This system will work to the advantage of the FHA and the Treasurer, and will obviate the necessity of putting FHA property up for tax sale. Mr. Groome stated, that in the meantime, he expects a change in the FHA regulations which will provide for the payment of taxes on a monthly basis by all mortgagees, which taxes will be held in escrow by the FHA, and transmitted to the County on an annual basis.

Public Hearing on Planning and Zoning Ordinance

It was unanimously agreed to reconvene on March 31, 1971, the Public Hearing on the proposed Planning and Zoning ordinance which was recessed on November 18, 1970. It was also agreed that each Commissioner would conduct informational meetings at the various election districts in his own

commissioner district to acquaint the citizens fully with the purpose and effect of the Zoning Ordinance; that 4 sets of colored maps would be prepared for use in the election district meetings; that Mr. Paul R. Raley would arrange for Court Reporters to record the election district meetings; and that the election district meetings would be concluded by March 12, 1971. Mr. August H. Wagener, County Engineer, will take the responsibility for having the additional sets of maps colored.

McLeod Property

Mr. H. V. McLeod appeared to present an offer for the sale or lease of his property to the County for use as a Sanitary Landfill:

LEASE	--	100 acres	--	10 years	--	\$42,000.00
		200 acres	--	10 years	--	\$65,000.00
SALE	--	100 acres	--		--	\$62,500.00
		200 acres	--		--	\$120,000.00

Mr. Aud advised Mr. McLeod that the Board would take the proposition under advisement and inform him of their intentions at the earliest opportunity.

Sediment Control Ordinance

Present: Mr. Bradford Reeves
Mr. John Hall, SCS
Mr. Alfred Dillow

Mr. Bradford Reeves, Chairman of the Task Force for Sediment Control presented the Board with the Task Force Report and recommendations for implementation of an ordinance which is required by State Law. It is mandatory that an ordinance be approved and adopted by March 1, 1971.

Mr. Reeves mentioned that it was the consensus of the Task Force to prepare an ordinance for St. Mary's County, rather than attempt a Tri-County effort. Mr. Reeves stated that the Task Force was not formally disbanded and that they would be available to consult with the Board of County Commissioners prior to a public hearing, which must be conducted prior to enactment of an ordinance.

Zoning Appeal by Thomas J. Ashe

Mr. Thomas J. Ashe presented copies of the deeds and covenants to his property in the 2nd Election District which indicates that at the time of conveyance of the property it was restricted to private and residential use. Mr. Ashe

protested the use of the beach property and in-shore waters for commercial purposes; namely, that the Steuart Petroleum Company was encroaching upon the rights of the property owners by anchoring too close to the shoreline, thereby causing a general disturbance and damage to the waterfront.

Mr. Robert E. Wigginton recommended to the Board that the zoning for the lots in question should be made residential.

Proposed Car-Wash Contract

Mr. Robert Thompson, Esperanza Car Wash, Box 302, Lexington Park, Maryland, offered an opportunity for the County to avail themselves of a car-wash contract with his firm for \$500 a year, payable in advance. Mr. Thompson based his offer on one wash and vacuuming job per week for the Sheriff's vehicles. Mr. Thompson stated that the same offer was agreeably received by the Health Department and the Maryland State Police.

Mr. Aud motioned and it was unanimously carried to accept the offer and to arrange for the contract.

Archer Street Pavement - St. Clement's Shores

Mr. John V. Baggett, Director, Department of Recreation and Parks appeared to request paving of Archer Street which leads into the recreation area.

The Board requested that the County Engineer survey the situation to determine ownership of the right-of-way and cost of construction.

Extension of Concrete Wall at Horse Landing Creek

The Board unanimously agreed, upon request from Messrs. Franklin and Freeman Copsey who were present, to an extension of a three-foot wing at Horse Landing Creek. Recent construction of a new Horse Landing Bridge included construction of a concrete wall, but it has been determined necessary to extend the wall for an additional 80 feet, at a cost of \$2,257.88. The Board requested that a letter be written to Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. authorizing the construction.

Mr. Franklin Copsey also requested that the Board of County Commissioners inquire into the possibility of the Corps of Engineers dredging the creek for navigational purposes. It was agreed to forward a letter of inquiry

to the Corps of Engineers and that a copy be sent to Franklin B. Copsey, Mechanicsville, Maryland 20659.

Planning and Zoning Board

Upon recommendation from Mr. Robert E. Wigginton, County Attorney, the Board agreed that the present Planning and Zoning Board will continue in office as of the first of January and continue until such time as the Zoning Ordinance is in effect.

Contracts for Parochial School Bus Transportation

A new and revised contract for Parochial School Bus Transportation contractors was approved by the Board of County Commissioners and the County Attorney. The revised schedule of payments under the terms of the contract was also approved. The Director of Finance included salary adjustments, based on the school bus formula used by the Board of Education, retroactive back to September, 1970 in the checks which were mailed out in December.

County Attorney Approval on all Contracts

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed that certification by the County Attorney shall be typed or stamped on all contracts entered by St. Mary's County, as follows:

"APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

(Name) County Attorney

Date

Appointment to Airport Committee

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed to invite Mr. F. Elliott Burch, former President of the Board of County Commissioners, 1962 to 1970, to join as a member of the Airport Committee. A letter of invitation was prepared, signed, and the commission accepted by Mr. F. Elliott Burch, this date.

Maypole Road

Mr. S. Ellwood Wilson of the law firm Mason, Fenwick and Lawrence, 1730 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.,

20036, accompanied by his son, Mr. William Wilson of St. Mary's County, appeared to discuss the sixty-foot right-of-way for the recently improved Maypole Road. They are particularly anxious to get the lines established for the 2,000 feet of frontage they own; they are happy to see the lines staked out as they are; but are most anxious to have such lines definitely established as can only be evidenced by signature to the right-of-way agreement by all parties concerned. Mr. S. Ellwood Wilson advised Commissioner Bowles that he would be happy to provide the County with the survey plat which had been completed on his 2,000 feet of frontage; and Mr. Aud stated that he would negotiate to obtain the signature of Robert Lee Miles to the right-of-way agreement so that the lines would be definitely established and recorded.

Hermanville Road

Present: Mr. Allan W. Tate, District Engineer, SRC
Mr. August H. Wagener, County Engineer

Mr. Allan W. Tate reported that, concerning the construction costs for the Hermanville Road, the SRC had increased the inspection fees and some of the other items to reflect an additional cost of \$15,000 to the original \$170,000 estimate -- thereby establishing the actual cost of construction at approximately \$185,000 to St. Mary's County. Mr. Tate reflected that as labor and material costs escalate, he would not doubt that the final cost would run up to \$200,000. President George R. Aud advised Mr. Tate that St. Mary's County would have to conduct some further financial investigation before he felt the County should commit itself to this particular construction.

Intersection of Route 5 and Route 249 at Callaway

President George R. Aud inquired into the feasibility of the SRC providing an acceleration lane going south on Route 5 from the intersection of 249 for vehicles turning right and to the south during the morning and evening rush hours. Mr. Aud commented that he believed the SRC owned sufficient land to provide the acceleration (or storage) lane in order to reduce the safety hazard which exists. Mr. Tate will conduct an investigation into the matter and report.

Signalization of Md. Route 246 and Midway Drive, Lexington Park

Commissioner J. Wilmer Bowles referred to the Traffic Safety Engineer's recommendations, submitted on December 8,

1970 for signalization of the Midway Drive location, rather than signalizing the Essex Drive location. The Board reaffirmed their preference for a traffic signal at Essex South. Mr. Tate indicated that the Traffic Safety Engineer remained firm in his recommendation.

Press Conference

Present: Mr. Dick Myers, WKIK
Mr. Jack Kershaw, ENTERPRISE
Mrs. Patty Duke, Beacon

At 3:45 p.m., the members of the news media were invited to express their views concerning the code of conduct for the regular Board of County Commissioners Meetings, with particular reference to the use of cameras and tape recorders. A free and open exchange of comments, off-the-record, was conducted.

Mrs. Patty Duke of the Beacon registered a formal complaint against Mrs. Helen M. Bailey, Administrative Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners, alleging that Mrs. Bailey's professional and personal attitude toward her is hostile, rude, discourteous, and unfair.

Airport Development

Mr. Thomas B. Bourne, IV, Project Manager of Henningson, Durham, and Richardson, appeared to outline a proposal to the Airport Committee and the Board of County Commissioners for the future development of the St. Mary's County Airport. Messrs. F. Elliott Burch, R. F. Gabrelcik, and Charles Norris were present for the Airport Committee; Dr. J. Patrick Jârboe was present for the Economic Development Committee. It was agreed to apply for FAA assistance in obtaining an additional full-length taxi-way as part of the Airport Committee proposal for development. Mr. Bourne will present a detailed engineering proposal, and cost figures, at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Amendment to Section 9 A 5 of the Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan

Mr. Robert E. Wigginton, County Attorney, stated that in his opinion, the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan could be approved. This amendment provides that individual sewerage systems shall be permitted to be installed in any portion of the County placed in Category S-5. Commissioner J. Wilmer Bowles stated that he

was in favor of passing it; President George R. Aud concurred; Commissioner J. S. Guy, Jr. abstained.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Approved,

George R. Aud

George R. Aud
President

N.B.

Please refer to minutes of meeting held on February 23, 1971 for clarification of the last paragraph of these minutes.