

Board of County Commissioners' Meeting

Tuesday, February 2, 1971

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

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

The minutes of a meeting which was held on Monday, January 25, 1971, with the Board of Education, were read and approved.

Payments Approved

Southern Maryland Wood Treating Corp., Inv. # 8537	
Tall Timbers Shore Erosion Project-----	\$66.40

Planning and Zoning

The up-coming District Hearings on Planning and Zoning were discussed and the Board of County Commissioners expressed their desire to have Mr. Leon Etzler, State Planner, present at all of the Hearings, together with the County Engineer, Mr. August H. Wagener, and the Administrative Officer, Paul R. Raley.

Tape Recorder

The Administrative Officer, Mr. Paul R. Raley, was requested to purchase a tape recorder for use at the Planning and Zoning Hearings and at the "First Tuesday" Press Conferences. The Board desires that the recorder be of excellent quality so as to insure accurate documentation, for file and reference purposes.

Press Conferences and Board Meetings  
Tape Recording Policy

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed that permission would be granted to the press to tape record the monthly Press Conferences which are held at 11:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. However, the Board

agreed that tape recorders would not be permitted for use in regular Board meetings. In addition, it will be the continuing policy of the Board to maintain an "open door" policy for the press on regular meeting days, and to accommodate the press by tape-recording policy decisions and special statements on issues for their use, upon request.

Civic Improvement Program -- Women's Club

Present: Mrs. Erva McKenney  
Mrs. Betsey Barley

The foregoing members of the Civic Improvement Program of the Women's Club appeared to request the sanction and support of the Board of County Commissioners in their plan for organizing and implementing a week of "clean-up" throughout the County, which will also require the support of the State Roads Commission. Teams of workers will be organized to collect trash and debris for deposit in central locations, which will have to be removed by truck to a sanitary landfill. The Board unanimously agreed to sign a resolution which will recognize and sanction this effort; further, the Board will request the cooperation of the State Roads Commission.

Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

It was unanimously agreed that President George R. Aud and the Sheriff, Lawrence Williams, would serve on the Regional Planning Board to the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. The Executive Director, Mr. Richard C. Wertz, was so notified as well as Dr. John H. Mills, Executive Director, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland.

Recreation and Parks Board

Upon recommendation from the Recreation and Parks Board, the Board of County Commissioners elected to reappoint Mr. Stanley O. Schrader to the Board of Recreation and Parks, as well as Mrs. Erva Davis. There remains one additional vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Harold D. Noe on January 4, 1971.

Bushwood Wharf

Present: Robert Steele Pogue                    August H. Wagener  
                Robert E. Pogue                         County Engineer

The Messrs. Pogue appeared to present a plan for the improvement to the existing seawall at Bushwood Wharf which has been damaged due to weather, and to propose additional work to protect same (perhaps a jetty) from further deterioration. Their plan, which was presented in sketch form, would require the use of land owned by Mrs. Alice Blackstone -- either by lease or deed. Robert Steele Pogue indicated that some dredging would also have to be done. It was indicated that bulkheading would probably cost \$1,675, dredging both sides \$4,400. The Board requested the County Engineer to inspect the situation and report.

Press Conference

The Board of County Commissioners conducted their first Press Conference, which was tape recorded in total, and reprinted in the Enterprise, copy of which has been placed in the official files of the Board of County Commissioners. The following members of the press media were present:

Mr. Dick Myers, WKIK  
 Mr. Chuck Lyon, WPTX  
 Mr. Jack Kershaw, Enterprise  
 Mrs. Patty Duke, Beacon

Roads Meeting

Present: J. Dennis Raley, Jr., SRC  
                J. Douglas Bond, SRC  
                August H. Wagener, County Engineer

Mr. J. Douglas Bond reported that the total length of the Airport Road is 4,750 feet, and that our letter requesting acceptance into the system must be changed to reflect this distance.

Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr. reported that he has some concern about the operation of the Public Trash Disposal Areas because of the regulations imposed by the Department

of Health. Mr. Raley stated that some changes would have to be made at Clements, St. Andrews, and Compton in order to obviate any dumping which would flow into near-by streams. Mr. Raley indicated that he would like to see the Commissioners phase out the Maddox Dump. The Commissioners expressed equal concern regarding this situation. Mr. Guy suggested the possibility of creating a sanitary landfill off Route 234 in the Fourth Election District and volunteered his services in investigating the possibility of acquiring land.

#### St. Mary's County Office of Civil Defense and Emergency Planning

Mr. Otis F. Wood, Acting Director, advised the Board of County Commissioners that the title of his organization had been changed, as captioned above. This will require a change in his letterhead, which he will work out with the Administrative Officer.

#### County Directors' Conference

Mr. Wood reminded the Board of the up-coming County Directors' Conference which will be held in Pikesville on March 4 and March 5, 1971, to which he would like to invite at least one County Commissioner. Mr. Aud advised Mr. Wood that an answer to his invitation would be forthcoming within a few days, schedules permitting.

#### Personnel

Present: Mr. B. Harris Sterling, Director of Finance

Mr. Wood stated that so far as his new budget is concerned, he would like to be able to include promotions for two Communications Clerks I -- upgrading them to Communications Clerks II. This action can be accomplished without examination since it is considered a promotion within the same classification. Further, Mr. Wood would like to up-grade the Chief Operator from Salary Scale 6 to Salary Scale 7.

Mr. Aud requested that Mr. Wood discuss the personnel actions in detail with the Director of Finance; Mr. Wood stated that the three contemplated personnel actions would reflect an annual increase of approximately 6% each. It was the general consensus of the Board that these promotions were warranted.

Part-Time Help

Mr. Wood stated that he would like to raise the hourly rate of pay for part-time help from \$2.00 per hour to \$2.50 per hour. The Board concurred with this request.

Damaged Radio, Ridge Vol. Fire Department

Mr. Wood reported that the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department had a damaged radio, caused by electrical fire, which they wished to have replaced at County Expense. Mr. Wood said that the Fire Board recommended this as an appropriate County expenditure. However, Mr. Wood did not recommend that this recommendation be followed.

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously disapproved the request of the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department and reasserted its policy to replace radios for purposes of "old age" only.

Emergency Food Supply

Mr. Wood displayed a sample of dehydrated foods which have been recommended by the State Agency because they take up less storage space, have to be replaced less often, and the cost is minimal.

Storage Space

Mr. Wood recommended that the Commissioners authorize him to have folding wooden doors constructed to cover the bunk storage space in the main corridor of the Emergency Operations Center. President George R. Aud requested that Mr. Wood obtain estimates from one or more carpenters for submission to the Board.

Emergency Antenna

The Board unanimously approved the purchase of stand- and emergency by antenna for the Emergency Operations Center, to be used if the other antennae are damaged by severe wind.

Potomac River Association, Inc.  
Protests on Dredging of St. Georges Creek, Zoning, Taxes, etc.

Mr. John O. Koegel, Chairman, headed a delegation from the Potomac River Association, Inc. and presented a written protest which included the following items:

1. Opposition against the constant and extensive applications by the Seafarers International Union for dredging in many parts of St. Georges and the possibility of destruction to the oyster seeding and harvest program;
2. That a conditional Zoning Ordinance be adopted for one-year only;
3. That Steuart be zoned as Light Industry;
4. That the four lots on Piney Point Beach be zoned residential;
5. And that serious thought be given to changing the tax status of all petroleum, gasoline, etc., storage tanks from personal property to real property.
6. And, further, that the Board insist that the County and State Health Officials enforce existing health regulations concerning pollution and contamination of our waters.

The foregoing items were discussed in detail and the President, George R. Aud, advised the group that an answer from the Commissioners would be forthcoming next Tuesday, February 9.

#### County Extension Service Budget

Mr. Benjamin Smith, Tobacco and Agricultural Scientist, appeared to request approval for the employment of ten nutrition aides to work with 420 families in St. Mary's County. The County appropriation for this employment would be \$20,605.00.

Mr. Aud advised Mr. Smith that the Board would not be in a position to give an approval until after the total budget review.

Commissioner Guy requested Mr. Smith to provide him with some background material and information pertaining to his activities for his personal perusal and review.

Recreation and Parks  
Tot Fun Center

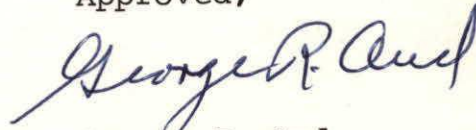
Commissioner Guy mentioned that it had been brought to his attention that the Recreation and Parks Department was conducting a Tot-Fun Center for three- to five-year olds, and that there had been some inquiry as to whether this activity carried over into Department of Health and Department of Social Services activities in the Day Care Centers, etc. The Board decided to investigate the matter with Mr. Baggett, who organized the program.

Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan  
Amendment to 9-A-5

Attorney Oliver R. Guyther appeared before the Board to request a decision on the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Water and Sewerage Plan which would allow his client, Mr. C. Maurice Dixon, to install a community sewage system for a Trailer Court in Park Hall. Mr. Guyther felt it incumbent upon the Commissioners to make a decision in view of the lapse of nine months since the Commissioners approved the Trailer Court and the fact that Mr. Dixon's financing arrangement in an aggregate of \$150,000 will be withdrawn very soon unless the amendment is approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Approved,



George R. Aud  
President