

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

Tuesday, November 9, 1971

Present: Mr. George R. Aud, President  
Mr. J. Wilmer Bowles, Commissioner  
Mr. J. S. Guy, Jr., Commissioner  
Mr. Robert E. Wigginton, County Attorney  
Mrs. Judy Bowles, Secretary (Recording)  
Mr. Harris B. Sterling, Director of Finance

Interviews - Four (4) Detention Officers for the Jail

Between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. the County Commissioners interviewed eleven applicants for the job of detention officer of which there were four openings. The applicants who applied for these positions are as follows:

Mr. Emerson Ford	Mr. George Young
Mr. Warren Brown	Mr. John Young
Mr. Garfield Butler	Mr. James Cullison
Mr. Donald Lynch	Mr. Billy S. McDonald
Mr. David Bryant	Mr. John Knott, Jr.
Mr. William Frost	

Of these applicants the County Commissioners unanimously approved of the hiring of the following four applicants as Detention Officers: Mr. Emerson Ford, Mr. William Frost, Mr. Donald Lynch and Mr. John Knott, Jr. Mr. Harris Sterling will take care of notifying these people.

BILLS APPROVED

John A. Donaho & Associates, Inc. (2nd installment)	\$7500.00
G. & G. Carpets (Drapes through-out County Commissioner's offices)	753.40

ROADS MEETING

Mr. Douglas Bond was not present. He was on vacation.  
Mr. August Wagener, County Engineer, was present.

Old Rte. 235 at Sandy Bottom in Hollywood

Mr. Bowles stated that the problem was located near Stanley Moser's on the north east side of Rte. 235 between the Parsonage House and Thompson's Furniture Store, the road needed to be bushed, ditched and re-surfaced. The road is in terrible condition, and was reported some time ago and nothing has been done about it.

Use of Front End Loader at Clement's Landfill

Commissioner Aud requested Mr. Wagener to check and see if the loader can be used at the Clement's Landfill.

County Government Study Committee Report

Present: Mr. Oliver Guyther, Chairman  
Mr. F. Elliot Burch, Sr., Vice Chairman  
Mr. J. Frank Raley, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Beth McCoy  
Mr. Roland Buke, Jr.  
Mr. James Dobry  
Mr. Alfred F. Gough, Jr.  
Mr. Walter B. Dorsey  
Mr. Melvin Holland  
Mr. William H. Wood, Jr.  
Mr. Eldred W. Greenwell  
Mr. Stanley Donaldson  
Mr. Joseph E. Bell II

Mr. Oliver Guyther stated that back in September of this year the County Commissioners appointed this group to do a study on county government and as soon as possible submit a report to this Board. The County Commissioners suggested fourteen members on this committee. Mr. Joseph Beck could not serve due to the time demand by his job. Then Mr. Ernest Bell II was asked to fill in for Mr. Beck on this committee. Mr. Guyther stated that this had been a hard working group, one which the County Commissioners could be proud of.

Mr. Guyther remarked that they often used the Civil Defense office as a meeting room and at their first meeting on April 29, 1971, Mr. Alfred Gough, Jr. took the minutes. At this meeting they discussed their purpose and how they were going to tackle this task. At their May 5 meeting they organized with Mr. Guyther as Chairman and Messrs. Elliot Burch and J. Frank Raley, Jr. as Vice-Chairman. The committee was then broken down into two sub-committees; a committee under the leadership of Mr. J. Frank Raley, Jr. to study the charter form of government and a committee under the leadership of Mr. Elliott Burch for the purpose of studying code home rule. The aim was to study both and come up with the best method of government for St. Mary's County, keeping in mind its future growth and needs.

These committees have gone into other areas of the state studying forms of government, County Commissioner's form to code home rule and charter government. The necessity of charter home rule became very obvious and they feel that the County Commissioners recognize the need to change our county government to charter home rule. They recommend this form of government.

At this point Mr. Guyther turned the discussion over to Mr. J. Frank Raley, Jr., who read the report of the County

Government Study Committee (which is on file in the office of the County Commissioners.).

After the report was read, Mr. J. Frank Raley, Jr. stated that there was a unanimous decision, on the part of the study committee, for the adoption of charter home rule. He also stated that the County Commissioners had to appoint a Charter Writing Board; however, if the County Commissioners fail to do so, they can be required to do so by a petition of 716 signatures (5% of the registered voters). Mr. Raley stated that the Charter Writing Board could have five, seven, or nine members. He recommended at least seven members be appointed to the Charter Writing Board in that they had only ten months to come up with a charter and that the work load certainly warranted seven if not nine members.

Mr. Elliot Burch stated that he was on the committee for code home rule and stated that there was competition between code home rule and charter home rule and it wasn't until the last stages that he changed his mind. He stated that charter was the ultimate as to authority. He added that charter home rule would not be easy to sell to the public and that a lot of preliminary planning would be involved. Mr. Aud remarked that he had talked to a lot of people who were discouraged with charter home rule; however, he feels it's the right way to go.

Mrs. Beth McCoy stated that she really enjoyed being on the committee. Mr. Guy stated that it was wonderful to see that this committee was able to make a unanimous decision. Mr. Wigginton added that it was a very fine report and that the County Commissioners should be very proud of it.

Mr. Aud thanked the committee for all their efforts and stated that the study committee would get a favorable reply from the Board of County Commissioners and stated that the County Commissioners would appoint the Charter Writing Committee soon.

#### Vouchers Signed

Vouchers 794 through 838 were approved and signed.

#### Approval of Signature - Watershed Project

The County Commissioners unanimously approved Mr. George R. Aud as "Issuer" in all documents pertaining to the release of monies for the Watershed Project.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Approved,

George R. Aud  
President