Board of County Commissioners' Meeting

Tuesday, June 6, 1972

Present: George R. Aud, President

J. Wilmer Bowles, Commissioner J. S. Guy, Jr., Commissioner

Robert E. Wigginton, County Attorney Paul R. Raley, Administrative Officer

Viola M. Gardner (Mrs.), Admin. Asst. (Recording)

Meeting Came to Order at 9:40 A.M.

Hewitt Road

Present: Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr., State Highway Admin. Mr. John B. Norris, Jr., Asst. County Engineer

Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr., informed the Commissioners that in 1970 he was given an estimate of \$18,000 and some odd dollars for the construction of Hewitt Road. There was a raise in price and raise in equipment rates which will raise the cost of the road. The reason for the \$18,000 price was that it was planned to use a lot of County machinery. He wanted to know if he had the authority to use County machinery from the landfills when it was not in use. Permission was given to use the County equipment when it was not being used in the landfills.

Dumps and Landfills

Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr., reported that Valley Lee Dump took 143 loads of gravel costing \$1,245.

Mr. Raley gave the Commissioners an overall picture of the landfills and dumps. He feels that probably someone will have to handle them since he is a State employee and is also working for the County. He recommended Mr. Tony Adams as he does a lot of his paper work. Mr. John B. Norris, Jr., Assistant County Engineer could take over and Mr. Adams or whoever was put in charge would do the field work.

Graves Road

Mr. Bowles stated that Mr. Raymond Sydnor was upset about Graves Road not being built the way it had been told to him. He would like some tar and chip on the road in order to keep the dust down in the summer and not be bogged down in mud in the winter, especially since school buses must travel this road.

Oiling Schedule

Mr. J. Dennis Raley, Jr., reported that they have completed last year's oiling schedule and are working on this year's/

Subdivision Roads

Mr. John B. Norris, Jr., Assistant County Engineer, discussed with the Commissioners general construction of roads. He was particularly interested in roads in subdivisions. He was of the opinion that roads in all new sections of subdivisions should be of asphalt; the roads in the former section were tar and chip. Roads for individual homes should not be made to have asphalt, especially if the road is not in a subdivision and is not heavily travelled.

Mr. Norris spoke of the roads in the King & Kennedy Estates. These roads should be brought up to a gravel standard and kept as gravel roads.

Mr. Norris also reported that the Board of the King & Kennedy Estates is requesting release of the road bond in order to pay their contractor. At the present time the road is not up to standard and does not meet County specifications. He cannot recommend the release of the bond.

Far Cry Road

It was reported that two (2) trees must be removed in order for the road to be passable for fire trucks.

Coral Place and Tulagi Place

Mr. Stroud will perform the necessary work relative to the curbing on these two streets.

Health Officer for St. Mary's County

Dr. William J. Marek was interviewed by the County Commissioners for the position of Health Officer for St. Mary's County. He is 35 years of age, a native of Maryland, born in Baltimore and attended the Baltimore City Schools. He received his M.P.H. from John Hopkins University and interned at South Baltimore General Hospital, the went to Public Health. He has been with the State Department of Health for four (4) years. He started in the Medicade Program as Head of the Nursing Home. He is presently Chief of the Division of Institutional Care Program.

Dr. Marek is married, has two (2) children ages 4 years and 6 years. The 4 year old is being treated at John Hopkins Hospital and will not get an answer for one (1) year as to her health. Due to this, if offered the position, he would commute daily from Arnold, Maryland to St. Mary's County during this one-year period.

Dr. Marek stated that he went into the State Health Department with the thought of getting into a local Health Department, and still wants to be a Health Officer even though he has progressed a long way on the State level. He has practiced with a group one night a week; started when he was an intern and has done this for five (5) years. He is eligible for Physician IV under the State Merit System and with the new raise his salary would be \$26,000 per year.

Dr. Marek informed them that he would not ask the County to supplement his mileage, but agreed to accept the \$2,000 Supplement paid to St. Mary's County Health Officer.

Dr. Marek was given an Application Blank to complete and the Commissioners voted unanimously to hire him starting on August 1, 1972. They informed him that he would be officially notified by letter.

Dr. Houser returned to the Commissioners' Meeting as was told that Dr. Marke had been hired and would start on August 1, 1972. Dr. Houser had planned to go off the payroll on June 30, 1972, but informed the Commissioners that he would contact the State Health Department with regard to staying on until July 30, 1972.

Correspondence

Mr. Paul R. Raley stated that a letter had been received from Mr. Bernard Imber requesting to use a well that had been built on another person's property. The Commissioners agreed that this would be permissible.

Bills Approved

John A. Donaho & Associates - FINAL PAYMENT \$6,320.00

Delahay's Pile Driving Service - Tall Timbers
Erosion District - Work and Material to
date (5/20/72) \$3,228.96

Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. - Fertilizer for
Airport \$ 804.40

Loker & Wigginton - Services Rendered, May \$ 782.50

Vouchers #2129-#2342 approved and signed by Mr. George R. Aud.

St. Mary's County Plumbing Board

The Board of County Commissioners stated that they would appoint members for the St. Mary's County Plumbing Board on June 20, 1972.

The Commissioners went into their monthly PRESS CONFERENCE

Assessor's Aide Position

It was moved by Mr. Aud that Mr. Andrew Jackson McWilliams be appointed to fill the position of Assessor' Aide and seconded by Mr. Bowles; motion carried. Mr. McWilliams was recommended for the position by the State Department of Assessment & Taxation and also by Mr. William Herbert, Supervisor of Assessors.

Hiring of Summer Students

Mrs. Viola M. Gardner, Administrative Assistant, proposed to the Commissioners that two (2) Summer Students be hired to assist in the Clerical and Stenographic work in the Office of the County Commissioners, for the period June 15 to September 1, 1972. The request was granted.

Tudor Hall Restoration

The County Commissioners approved the Payment #7 to the Contractor in the amount of \$28,396.80 for the restoration work being done on Rudor Hall as recommended by the Architect, Mr. Orin Bullock.

Senate Bill 390

Mr. Paul R. Raley, informed the Commissioners that Governor Mandel had vetoed S.B. 390 for disabled home owners to have a property tax credit.

Midway Drive

Mr. Aud requested that the State Highway Administration be asked to place a "No Left Turn Between the Hours of 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM" sign at entrance lane to Midway Drive on Great Mills Road.

Mr. Paul R. Raley also requested a "Do Not Block Entrance" sign at the same location.

Base Station - Mechanicsville

Present: Mr. Otis Wood, Actg. Dir., Emergency Operations Center Jack Kershaw, Enterprise Christie Selph, St. Mary's Beacon Dick Myers, WKIK

Mr. Woods informed the Commissioners that the Base Station they had approved for the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department was not what was required. The additions to it will cost \$450. They want two (2) separate receivers and no priority search. They will be able to receive on both channels at the same time. They will not exceed the \$5,000 limit. Mr. Bowles suggested that this request be submitted in letter form. The Commissioners approved the request subject to receipt of the letter.

Control Center Fence

Mr. Wood also requested that a fence be installed around the new tower and to enclose the ventilation shaft at South End of the Control Center. Mr. Wood stated he did not know whether he would get Federal and State approval for these in this Fiscal Year, but requested that the \$800, County share, be carried over. Mr. Wood suggested waiting another month to see if he gets the money.

Health Department Base Station and Radios

Mr. Wood suggested to the Commissioners that the radios for the Health Department Sanitarians be kept with the County and do not let it become a Health Department matter. He proposed that the base be set in the Control Tower and further stated that this was the type that Mr. Schrader proposed for the school buses.

Two-Way Radios for Board of Education

Mr. Wood recommended radios for the Board of Education buses in case the school bus broke down or had some other emergency. Mr. Wood also stated that the Federal Communications Commission does not consider a network crowded until they get more than 75 mobile units on it.

Mr. Guy was concerned about the radios in the buses. He felt that if there was a disturbance on one bus and the other buses heard of it, it might generate another problem; the children might react on the other buses. Mr. Wood felt the advantages would outweigh this problem.

Mr. Wood also informed the Commissioners that none of this would be put into the console. He plans putting a remote control back in the corner. This would not go through their Control Board.

Mr. Bowles requested that Mr. Wood verify the use of these buses.

Mr. Wood stated that perhaps at some time they would be used for regular school buses. He further stated that he understood from Mr. Daniel Schrader that there will be no County money involved.

The County Commissioners gave approval for this pending verification of use by Mr. Wood.

Right-of-Way at St. Inigoes

Mr. Paul R. Raley presented a request for a right-of-way of 50' at St. Inigoes. This right-of-way is for the County to take over Charles Lancaster Road in a newly proposed subdivision. This matter was given to Mr. John B. Norris, Jr., Assistant County Engineer to investigate.

Citizens in Violation of Trailer Regulations

Present: Mrs. Mary Martin

Mrs. Gloria Morgan Mrs. Jan Dotson

Mrs. Mary Martin requested to appear before the Commissioners together with other members of the Committee to discuss with the

Commissioners the appointments to the Blue Ribbon Committee.

Mrs. Morgan stated that their Committee is connected with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Citizens for Progress and several other groups.

Mrs. Morgan inquired as to how much power the Committee would have? How many blacks were appointed on it, and how often they would meet? Mr. Aud replied that the Committee would study the problem and make recommendations to the Commissioners. They will have persons appear before them and make their presentations. These persons and their recommendations should be a major part of what is presented to the Commissioners. The number of meetings would be left with the Committee, and Mr. David H. Smith, Principal of Banneker Middle School and Mr. James A. Forrest, employee of the C and P Telephone Company are the two black members. The Commissioners will give them their charge and they will set their own time table as to when this study will be completed.

Mrs. Morgan further stated that a list of names had been submitted to the Commissioners to have a selection made from it, and she wanted to know how the Commissioners determined the persons to serve on the Committee, and felt that one person from the list submitted should have been selected.

Mr. Aud stated that they tried to get people who would have an open and clear mind about the problems.

Mrs. Morgan wanted to know how people with clear, open minds on trailers make any decisions. She felt she would have rather seen people who were in trailers or against trailers on the Committee. People who were directly involved and worked on the problem should have been included. She further stated that is is always the same few who are asked to participate on Committees.

Mrs. Morgan said she felt it was a dangerous committee because they are not the ones affected.

Mr. Guy stated that the Committee's recommendations would be only as good as the input from these affected persons.

Mrs. Dotson stated that Mr. Smith does not live in the County but he may know something about the County.

Mrs. Morgan told the Commissioners that she sees this committee as another way of maneuvering people rather than face it headon. She feels that whatever recommendations come from this

committee will affect the minority group of people in the County and she meant some 80 families who are in violation of the trailer regulations.

Mr. Bowles stated that they must deal with the sanitary factors, the health of the people who live in trailers and the economic situation. They are responsible to everyone in the County and not just to those who live in trailers. Everyone should be heard and they should have their input into this study, and he hoped that when the Commissioners get this report, it will contain all these factors. Mr. Bowles further stated that one charge will be to look into some financial arrangements for these people to secure their water and sewerage. They want to find ways and means to change this situation. He stated that the Commissioners had been very cooperative with the families, and had not put anyone out of their homes.

Mrs. Martin inquired if they could tell these people that they will not be put out of their homes.

The Commissioners said they could not give anyone permission to violate any laws.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

George R. Aud

President