

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETINGTuesday, August 22, 1972

Present: George R. Aud, President
 J. Wilmer Bowles, Commissioner
 J. S. Guy, Jr., Commissioner
 Robert E. Wigginton, County Attorney
 Judith D. Bowles, Recording Secretary

The meeting came to order at 10:05 A. M.

Tall Timbers Public Wharf

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

The County Commissioners unanimously approved the payment of \$527.00 for emergency repairs at the Tall Timbers Public Wharf.

SATAV - Water System

Present: Thomas D. McKewen, Director, Maryland Environmental Service
 Reed McDonagh, Asst. Director, Maryland Environmental Service
 Ronald Albrecht, Maryland Environmental Service
 Dr. John Mills, Tri-County Council
 Leon Etzler, Tri-County Council
 Orhan Steinmetz, Joseph H. Goddard, Margaret E. Goddard, Clarence A. Goddard, Jr., Joseph O'Brien, William O'Brien, James B. Cryer, Mrs. C. Frederick Lott and Mary Alberta Goddard

Mr. Reed McDonagh opened by stating that after a meeting with Mr. James Coulter, Secretary of Natural Resources in March of this year, there were various subjects he felt should be discussed; the Leonardtown Waste Water Treatment Facility and first and foremost the SATAV Housing Development. He stated that the Maryland Environmental Service was concerned with advanced planning and a better way to proceed in the future; however, he stated that MES was not specific at this point

The County Commissioners stated that they wished to pursue the SATAV Housing Development. Mr. McDonagh stated that Mr. McCauley, Project Director for SATAV, had been in touch with him. This came about after Mr. McCauley obtained some information from Farmer's Home Administration, which is the agency involved in the mortgage guarantees on the SATAV development. FHA apparently had changed its ruling concerning

the individual water systems to that of a overall public sewerage facility. He went on to say that SATAV was not located in a sanitary district area and all the homes have individual systems. Eighteen of the homes are built and fourteen of them are occupied at the present time.

Mr. McDonagh also stated that the SATAV Housing Development was a non-profit corporate entity with fiscal help from FHA. He added that Mr. McCauley sent MES a letter as to several alternatives to the problem. Mr. Ronald Albrecht stated that SATAV was informed that if they could secure sponsor it would be helpful. Mr. Beavin sent them to MES to see where they stood in relation to helping them. Commissioner Guy asked if all SATAV needed was a statement from FHA stating that they would not become involved with the project unless a sewerage system was available and then perhaps MES could step in and be of some help. Mr. Albrecht stated that this was correct.

FHA misunderstood MES and it's role in that they could not be a sponsor due to the fact that they had no fiscal responsibility. Commissioner Bowles asked if FHA had changed its ruling (re: on site sewer) up to or more than 20 units. Mr. McDonagh stated that the ruling was changed by FHA prior to the units being completed. He stated that MES bought the problem back to the Commissioners to seek a solution to allow the project to continue. He added that MES had no agreement with SATAV and were invited as a result of a misunderstanding. Mr. McDonagh stated that he had advised Mr. McCauley to discuss the problem with the Commissioners. Mr. McKewen stated that the difficulty appears to be that SATAV had hoped MES could put up the money and guarantee that the sewer systems would be self-supporting and that MES did not have that kind of fiscal resources. Mr. McDonagh stated that MES was precluded from any federal grants and if the County could create a sanitary district in this area the Metropolitan Commission could apply for State as well as Federal grants. Mr. Albrecht added that if SATAV could secure a sponsor, FHA would make a grant to them. Commissioner Bowles felt that it would appear that the agency to be involved with SATAV would be the Metropolitan Commission. Mr. McDonagh also felt that the Metropolitan Commission should be involved in this area, subject to the approval of the County Commissioners approval. Commissioner Bowles added that the Commissioners had taken steps to make the County into sanitary districts. district.

Town of Leonardtown Proposed Business District

Present: Robert Plavnick, Raymond, Pine, Parrish and
Plavnick, City Planners
Dick Myers, Leonardtown Planning and Zoning
Chairman

Mr. Plavnick presented the County Commissioners with a plan depicting the outlay of Leonardtown as to future growth and development. He asked the Commissioners if the County had any requirements as to their needs for future office space. Commissioner Aud stated that the only plans the Commissioners had at the present time would be a second story over the existing Civil Defense Office (which is underground) for future county offices. He added that it would really be hard for him to say what the County would need due to the fact that if Charter Government was approved by the people of St. Mary's County, a new county office building would most definitely be needed. Commissioner Guy added that parking was a major problem. Mr. Plavnick stated that he would look into the situation and advise the County Commissioners where land might be available for parking. Commissioner Bowles stated that the Commissioners should be better prepared to answer questions about future development and added that the County Commissioners had made every effort to use the existing space in the Courthouse in order to keep County Government centrally located. He added that the Commissioners had been unsuccessful in obtaining approval for a new county office building or an addition to the Courthouse from the legislature. Mr. Plavnick replied that he would be back in a few weeks to see if his firm could come up with some ideas.

Public Hearing - Resolution for Privately Constructed Community Water and Sewer Systems

The Resolution of the Metropolitan Commission, dated August 16, 1972, has been received and reviewed by the Commissioners and upon motion duly made by Commissioner J. S. Guy, Jr. and seconded by Commissioner J. Wilmer Bowles and carried by Commissioner President George R. Aud, it was unanimously approved that there will be a public hearing on the same in accordance with Sub-Section 159 of the Maryland Public Local Laws. The meeting will take place at Leonardtown School at 7:30 P. M. on Friday, September 8, 1972. The newspapers and radio stations were advised accordingly.

Leonardtwn Sewerage Treatment Facility

Present: R. Bascom Broun, III, Mayor of Leonardtown
Ray Hall, Commissioner of Leonardtown
Barry Fenwick, Commissioner of Leonardtown
Mr. John Williams, Consulting Engineer, Johnson
and Williams

Dr. John Mills opened the discussion by stating that the Leonardtown Commissioners had become interested in improving their sewerage and water treatment facilities. The hospital, nursing home, proposed home for the elderly, future development of the Board of Education, all had to be considered. There are considerable pressures for development. In the interest of trying to resolve the needs of the town and its economic development, there had been a conference called. After the conference recommendations and alternatives were sent to the Health Department and from them back to the town. To date no reply has been received from the Leonardtown Commissioners. Dr. Mills contacted Mr. Raul from the Health Department and they thought it would be advisable to bring the Maryland Environmental Service into the picture in order to reinforce the consideration of these alternatives. He had contacted Mr. McDonagh and the County Commissioners to discuss the feasibility of considering all the alternatives.

Mr. John Williams stated that the application for the sewerage treatment plant was filed in 1968 with HUD, revised and refiled in January of 1971. But, at the same time, another application was submitted for laterals. The reason for the additional application was the fact that the laterals were to be financed through FHA.

Mr. Williams stated that every effort was made to comply with the comprehensive water and sewer plan and the application conforms to the comprehensive plan exactly. He went on to say that the dye study conducted by John Hopkins University had been completed and furnished to the applicable state agencies. He stated that this confirmed their position as to the method of treatment to service the Town of Leonardtown.

Quite a few questions were raised concerning location of the treatment facility, service to Leonardtown as well as the County and who would be responsible for what charges if a treatment facility were set up to service the County as well as Leonardtown.

The County Commissioners and Mayor Broun of Leonardtown requested the Maryland Environmental Service to conduct a study as to the feasibility, location, cost to Leonardtown, cost to the County and cost per family should a centrally located treatment facility be constructed. Mr. McKewen requested the County Commissioners to send him a letter to this affect and his agency would make every effort to have the study completed and submitted to us within two months.

Roadside Stabilization

Present: John Norris, County Engineer
John Hall, Soil Conservation

John Hall stated that the conditions of the roadsides in St. Mary's County were very bad due to erosion. He added that Roadside Stabilization was made available through the Department of Agriculture and it was a tri-county effort. The Department of Agriculture would pay 50% of the total cost. He presented the Commissioners with a form to be signed by them to more or less show their interest in the program. He added that there would be no cost to the County. The Commissioners referred the matter to Mr. Wigginton to review and approve, at which time they would sign the application.

Taxpayer's Association

Present: Mr. Harry Raley, Mr. J. Claude Jarboe, Mr. James Dobry, Mr. Harvey Knott, Mr. Ralph Raley, Mr. Gary Hopple, Mr. Allen Cecil, Mr. James Mattingly, Mr. Robert Miedzinski

Mr. Claude Jarboe stated that this meeting was a follow-up of the meeting held at the Technical Center. Mr. Bowles stated that he had heard that Mr. Claude Jarboe had stated at their public meeting that he had personally invited all Commissioners to attend the meeting at the Technical Center. He advised Mr. Jarboe that this was incorrect in that he received no invitation nor did Mr. Jarboe personally invite him. Mr. Jarboe stated that he had called the Commissioner's office and left word with a secretary about the meeting and could not be blamed if they did not receive the message. Mr. Bowles reiterated that at no time did he talk with Mr. Jarboe and he felt that the statement given to the news media and others attending the public meeting was incorrect,

Commissioner President George Aud asked the Association if they were organized and who were it's officers. Mr. James Dobry stated that they were still somewhat unorganized, but they were in the process of getting together due to the large number of taxpayers they were representing. Mr. Dobry at this point asked the Commissioners questions involving the budget. The Commissioners sent for Mr. Sterling, Director of Finance, in order that he could be of some help to the taxpayers. At this point Mr. Dobry asked Mr. Sterling if he could, in his records, find out exactly how much was being spent in maintenance of county roads and if this information was broken down in such a way as to single out each road in question. Mr. Sterling stated that it was. Mr. Dobry had quite a few questions he asked the Commissioners. He added that he realized that these questions could not be answered off the top of the head and that he would be back with questionnaires to be answered, in order to give some time in preparing answers to their numerous questions. He added that the Taxpayer's Association wanted to visit each and every department to see where their tax dollars are being spent. The County Commissioners stated that they would cooperate with them 100%. The Commissioners then stated that the real problem laid with the State Tax Commission in that they set the rates of assessments. They added that if a taxpayer in St. Mary's County was dissatisfied with his assessment, he had to file an assessment appeal within thirty days of receipt of notice of assessment, after which a meeting would be set up with the County Commissioners to decide if the assessment was a fair. If the taxpayer was not satisfied with the Commissioner's decision, he could appeal the decision and to to the State Tax Court in Baltimore. Also, the assessors had the same right of appeal to the State Tax Court. Mr. Dobry then stated that he realized that they were not as organized as they wished to be and added that they intend to be here in the Courthouse frequently with questions and would visit with every branch of County Government. Commissioner Aud stated that when they became organized that the Commissioners would work with them in every way they could.

Vouchers Signed

Vouchers 2853 through 2923 were approved and signed by Commissioner President George R. Aud.

Bills Approved:

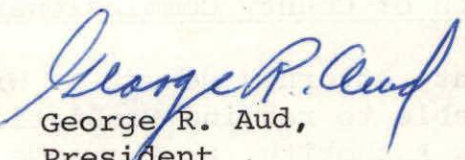
Delahay Pile Driving (resulting from the storm Agnes) damage in front of the following lots:

Lot #17	\$ 2,123.06
Lot #17	2,062.25
Lot #18	1,672.21
Snap-On Tools	59.14
Circuit Court for Calvert County	
Charles G. Buckler vs. Unsatisfied Claim	306.00
State's Attorney: State vs. Owens	47.85
State's Attorney: Kraft vs. State	119.75

Proclamation Signed

A proclamation was signed by the County Commissioners honoring Roland Beard of Tall Timbers, Maryland as Blood Donor of the Year with a contribution of eight gallons of blood.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P. M.


 George R. Aud,
 President