

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETINGTuesday, April 24, 1973 and Wednesday, April 25, 1973

Present: Commissioner J. Wilmer Bowles, President
 Commissioner J. S. Guy, Jr.
 Commissioner George R. Aud
 Paul R. Raley, Administrative Officer
 Judith Mullins, Recording Secretary

The meeting came to order at 9:45 a.m.

READING OF MINUTES

The minutes of April 17 and 18, 1973 were read and corrected.

Commissioner Guy made a motion to approve the minutes of April 10-11, 1973, seconded by Commissioner Aud; Commissioner Bowles made it unanimous and signed same.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES USA, INC.

Present: Ed Cox, Executive Secretary, Youth Commission

Mr. Cox stated there is going to be a program called Youth Services USA, Inc. The Navy base will supply facilities and personnel needed. As of February 2, a Board of Directors was formed. \$7,000.00 is needed. The Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement will be asked to fund 3/4 of this amount and the remainder will be from civic organizations. Commissioner Guy made a motion to approve the Grant Application (GCLE 200A) requesting funds from Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement to subsidize Youth Services program. Commissioner Aud seconded the motion and Commissioner Bowles made it unanimous.

YOUTH DAY

Present: Ed Cox

Mr. Cox said May 12 will be Youth Day at St. Mary's County Fair Grounds, and he asked if someone from the County level of Government would like to offer themselves to be questioned on politics.

FILING SYSTEM FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The secretary is to set a numbered filing system for zoning applications for hearings; numbers starting at 0001 (New Phoenix). The plat and property description should be provided by Planning and Zoning prior to our hearing; also, a letter stating action taken by said Commission.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

Present: Irene Henderson, Clerk

Irene Henderson said that for the first time the annual convention is being held in St. Mary's County and they are requesting

\$530.00 be appropriated for the cocktail party and banquet. It will be held at the Belvedere May 4, 5, and 6. The hosting County is responsible for the expenses. Mrs. Henderson is to discuss this with Harris Sterling, who is to advise the Commissioners if the money is in the budget and can be used for this purpose.

LAW DAY - PROCLAMATION No. 73-10

Commissioner Guy made a motion that the Commissioners sign the Proclamation declaring May 1 Law Day, seconded by Commissioner Aud and made unanimous by Commissioner Bowles.

WHITE CANE WEEK - PROCLAMATION NO. 73-9

Commissioner Guy made a motion that the Commissioners sign the Proclamation declaring the week of April 27 through May 5, 1973 to be White Cane Week, seconded by Commissioner Aud and made unanimous by Commissioner Bowles.

GIRLS DAY IN BUSINESS - PROCLAMATION NO. 73-11

Commissioner Guy made a motion that the Commissioners sign the Proclamation declaring April 25, 1973 as Girls Day in Business, seconded by Commissioner Aud and made unanimous by Commissioner Bowles.

BIDS ON CHEVROLET BUS

On April 18, 1973 the following bids were opened on the Chevrolet Bus, Serial #OS642B122403 used by Recreation and Parks:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Gale Jones | \$ 79.79 |
| Lexington Park Methodist Church (Ramon Duane Huntley) | 101.00 |
| John Hufton | 365.00. |

Mr. Baggett is to write a letter to Mr. Hufton informing him that the bid was awarded to him.

PROPOSED CROSSING OF RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY

A letter was received from Free State Surveying & Land Planning, Inc. submitting a plat showing a proposed change in the existing railroad crossing on property belonging to Mr. Philip Cifizzari. Mr. Cifizzari would like the approval of the Commissioners to abandon this crossing and establish a right of way as shown on the plat. Commissioner Bowles made a motion that this request be denied, seconded by Commissioner Guy and Commissioner Aud made it unanimous. Paul Raley is to write to Free State Surveying & Land Planning, Inc. stating it was denied.

WILLOW BROOK ESTATES SECTION 1

A letter was received from Free State Surveying & Land Planning, Inc. submitting a plat showing remaining property of the

Guenther Construction Corp. located on Flat Iron Road. This plan has been submitted to the Planning Commission and received concept approval. Section 1, containing 10 lots, has received preliminary approval. Mr. Guenther would like to continue with the remaining 25 lots; however, he does not know what effect the policy of December 26 would have on his plan. Paul Raley is to request John Norris to determine the future improvements needed on Flat Iron Road from said subdivision to Route 5 and the cost of construction, improvement and additional right of way for said road.

APPLICATIONS FOR PLUMBING PERMITS

The application for plumbing permits were approved to be printed, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.

BILL FOR RESTORATION AND IMPROVEMENT - TUDOR HALL

Orin M. Bullock, Jr. submitted a bill for services rendered for the restoration and improvement of Tudor Hall in the amount of \$4,167.80. Commissioner Guy made a motion to approve the payment of this bill, subject to Harris Sterling's approval that it is in the budget, seconded by Commissioner Aud and made unanimous by Commissioner Bowles.

TANNER CREEK

Proposed plans were received from Department of Natural Resources in connection with the Tanner Creek Shore Erosion Control District. They are prepared to award an Engineering Contract for the survey and development of construction plans and specifications, but the Commissioners' approval is needed. The total cost is \$200,000, which will be loaned to St. Mary's County interest-free, not to exceed 25 years. Mrs. Louise Blosser of Tanner Creek Citizens Association sent a letter to the Commissioners stating the plans did not include the cost of dredging and putting in a new channel from Tanner Creek to the Bay and requesting this cost to be included. Paul Raley is to contact Tom Merryweather of the Department of Natural Resources to request they determine the cost of putting in the channel.

PLANNER

A letter of acceptance was received from Mr. Robert Willard for the position of Planner.

MAINTENANCE MAN - RECREATION AND PARKS

Present: John Baggett

John Baggett recommended William Clement Ball for the position of Maintenance Man at a salary of \$7201.00 per year, effective date of employment May 2, 1973. Commissioner Guy made a motion to approve Mr. Baggett's recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Aud and made unanimous by Commissioner Bowles.

PICKING UP OF TRASH AT BOAT LAUNCHING SITES

Present: John Baggett

Mr. Baggett stated he could request a grant from the Department of Natural Resources to pick up the trash at the boat launching sites effective July 1. The receipt of grant is subject to advertising and receiving bids for this service. Mr. Baggett was instructed to advertise. Any cost prior to July 1 would be County expense.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Present: Joseph Weiner, County Attorney
John Hall, Soil Conservation Service
John Norris, Assistant County Engineer

A letter was received from David Williams, Attorney for James Dobry, et al., requesting the County Inspector to see that no building is done at the low income housing project located on Norris Road until a building permit is obtained.

Mr. Norris said the project is subject to subdivision regulations even though it is not classified as such and, therefore, a grading permit is not needed. Mr. Norris also stated that they have not made an application for a building permit. Mr. Norris and John Hall are to go to the site and determine if the project is in compliance with the soil erosion plan.

WATERSHED PROJECT - SITE 1 (JONES HEIRS)

Present: John Hall, Soil Conservation Service
Joseph Weiner, County Attorney

John Hall said he contacted Mrs. Dorsey, one of the Jones heirs, in Baltimore. Mrs. Dorsey was willing to accept \$400.00 per acre for the land. Mrs. Dorsey refused to name the other heirs, but would get most of the heirs together to come before the Commissioners. The Commissioners were in unanimous agreement to offer Mrs. Dorsey and the other heirs \$400.00 per acre. Mr. Hall is to contact Mrs. Dorsey and request that she and the other heirs come to the Commissioners' Office to sign the Deed.

WHITE CANE WEEK

Present: John Welch, Ridge Lions Club
A. C. "Skip" Gross, Jr., Leonardtown Lions Club

The Commissioners presented to John Welch and Skip Gross a Proclamation declaring April 27 through May 5 as White Cane Week.

The meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m. The remainder of the day was devoted to working on the budget.

Wednesday, April 25, 1973

Present: Commissioner J. Wilmer Bowles, President
Commissioner J. S. Guy, Jr.
Judith A. Mullins, Recording Secretary

The meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Aud was not in attendance.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH ROAD

Present: Mr. John Norris, Assistant County Engineer
Mr. Hugh Wilkerson, Surveyor
Mr. James Dumphey

Mr. Norris said all Deeds on St. Andrew's Church Road have been finalized and are ready for recordation. Specifications and Plans are being developed by Mr. Wilkerson for bidding on the construction of St. Andrew's Church Road from the intersection of Indian Bridge Road to Maryland State Route 235. Advertisement is to begin May 3, 1973 for two weeks and bids will be opened May 30, 1973 at 11:00 a.m. Plans and specifications will be available in the County Commissioners' Office for \$15.00. Commissioner Guy made a motion to sign the plat of St. Andrew's Church Road, seconded by Commissioner Bowles. Commissioner Aud was not present.

ST. GEORGE'S ISLAND IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Present: David Sayre, President
Mr. and Mrs. Mulry Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. James Deagle
Philip Robrecht

Mr. Sayre stated the flooding of the roads is a serious condition on St. George's Island. According to authorities, the tides seem to be higher in recent years than normal. The abnormal tides rise from two inches to two feet. Mr. Sayre said these low spots in the road could be raised as much as two feet within the existing road. These conditions are hazardous when emergency vehicles need to get through. In addition, the salt water causes damage to the vehicles' brakes. Mr. Sayre suggested a survey of the drainage area be made. The road itself is in very poor condition. Commissioner Bowles asked what the possibility was of getting additional rights of way, to which Mr. Sayre said a good possibility. Commissioner Bowles said part of the road belongs to the State and, therefore, they would have to work in cooperation with the State. Commissioner Bowles said the Commissioners would ask the Assistant County Engineer and Resident Maintenance Engineer for the State Highway Administration to survey St. George's Island and make recommendations on how to proceed to make corrections.

Mr. Sayre stated there was also a drainage problem with the ditches. Commissioner Guy said there are funds in the budget for the purchase of a machine in an effort to take care of this problem.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ESTIMATES
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Present: B. Harris Sterling, Finance Director
Stanley Donaldson, Finance Office
John Cross, President CTA
Walt Frazier
Alvis Mealy
Charles Purcell, MSTA
John Little, C.P.A.

Mr. Purcell stated they would be meeting with the educators of the County Thursday, April 26, and would like to know what they would be able to tell them in connection with the budget. The teachers knew the financial situation last year, but this year they were not willing to let it happen again. Mr. Purcell said most of the items that were negotiated last year were cut - salaries, reimbursement for courses, and teachers. The teachers want to know what is going to happen and they will base their decisions on this.

Commissioner Bowles stated that whatever decisions will be made he hopes will be something all can live with. The Commissioners are still working on the budget and they are still working towards increasing the P.L. 874 money because they still have hope for some improvement due to the recent announcement by the President in this regard. This would be impossible to include in the budget because of the May 1 deadline. Commissioner Bowles further stated that as far as the educators' salaries are concerned, there has been no change at this time in the proposed budget.

Mr. Little said a couple of positions were eliminated and some programs were reduced to last year's level. Funding for course credits was reduced by 50% of the request.

Commissioner Bowles said another unknown factor is the maintenance of school buildings. This could cost the County another six to seven million dollars over the next five years.

Commissioner Guy stated that because of the losses of funding, they will not be able to provide all requests within one given year. The Board of Education budget has been reviewed twice and the salary scale has not been changed and the teacher ratio has not been changed, with the exception of the Title I people. The County budget still has to be reviewed. Commissioner Guy further stated that if there is a drastic change in the Board of Education budget, we will notify them and will meet with them again.

TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Present: Mel Holland, Vice President
Mike McCauley, Acting Director
Donald Curtis, Deputy Director

Neal Myerberg, Attorney
Joseph Carter, Commissioner representative
Phyllis Morss, member

Mr. McCauley stated Tri-County Community Action Committee had requested \$40,000 of revenue sharing money from St. Mary's County and the Committee had been informed that the Commissioners had not allocated this money in their budget. Some new information has been received that warranted another approach.

Mr. Myerberg said that at Mr. William Welch's (Director of TCCAC) request, he reviewed public laws and also had talked with Mr. Weiner, County Attorney, and they have found no impediment that would prohibit the County from funding a non-profit corporation such as TCCAC. Other counties found no impediment for this type of grant.

Mr. McCauley said they had received a letter from the Maryland Office of Economic Opportunity indicating that the Commissioners could allocate this money to the State and the State could in turn allocate it to the TCCAC. Calvert County has submitted a request to the Attorney General for legal authority on this matter. As of this date no reply has been received. Mr. McCauley said they feel that TCCAC does fall under one of the qualified categories for revenue sharing money.

Mr. Holland said they are asking for 10 months of funding because their budget year is September 1 through August 30. Calvert County has in its budget \$10,800. \$3,000 goes to Tri-County Council for local share. Charles County has made no definite decision but there is an indication from two Commissioners that they are in favor of it.

Commissioner Bowles asked why Calvert County contributed \$10,800 and Mr. Myerberg said they based it on what services would be of benefit to the County.

Commissioner Guy stated if St. Mary's did agree to the funding it would be on an equal level of Calvert County's contribution.

Commissioners Guy and Bowles stressed the fact that this funding could not be matching funds provided revenue sharing money is used, or they would be severely penalized. Mr. McCauley said it was not matching funds.

Mr. Curtis said it seemed as if St. Mary's County was not interested in this program.

Commissioner Guy said the budget considerations were done on the basis of authority and the Finance Office had advised the Commissioners they would not be able to fund TCCAC.

Commissioner Bowles stated the Commissioners had informed Mr. Welch that the Commissioners were in favor of continuing the

Program and would get a decision from the County Attorney as to the authority to do so.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HOUSING AUTHORITY (St. Mary's Leased Housing Corp.)

Present: David Williams, Attorney
James Dobry

Mr. Williams stated they would like to bring to the Commissioners' attention the fact that modular homes are being brought onto the Housing Authority project property on this day. Mr. Williams said that according to Walter Raum of the Health Department construction had started and they did not have a building permit. He said it was of extreme concern to them that some action should be taken immediately by the Commissioners' Office to stop construction.

Commissioner Bowles said the Commissioners would request Mr. Weiner, County Attorney, and Mr. Leonard Cryer, County Inspector, to meet with the Commissioners tomorrow morning concerning the situation.

Mr. Dobry said the Health Department said that a subdivision plat should be submitted showing individual lots of 15,000 square feet. He said they had retained a law firm in Baltimore to assist in this suit. Mr. Dobry stated he had requested an appearance before the Grand Jury and if John Bailey, States Attorney, does not grant an appearance, he will go to the Justice Department and the Federal Grand Jury.

Mr. Williams said his request of the Commissioners is to take the necessary legal action to see that no construction is started.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

J. Wilmer Bowles 5/29/73
J. Wilmer Bowles
President