

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, January 31, 2023)
Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, Interim County Administrator
Jenna Guzman, Communications Director, Public Information Office

Prior to the business meeting, a Reception for Boards, Commissions and Committees was held in the lobby of the Chesapeake Building.

Commissioner President Guy called the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Approval of Consent Agenda

I move to approve the Consent Agenda, which contains the Minutes of January 24, 2023, as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

3. PROCLAMATION

A proclamation was presented for Transit Equity Day 2023.

4. PRESENTATION

A. BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The following individuals were recognized for their participation on Boards, Committees and Commissions.

Administrative Charging Committee

Nickolas Cromwell, Michael Deitch, Joyce Dyson, Dr. Linda Lymas, Peter Wild

Adult Public Guardianship Review Board

Dr. Joseph DeVitis, Dr. Rene Grace, Sherry Pierce, Thomas Stokel, Kathleen Werner, Jennifer Willoughby

Agriculture, Seafood and Forestry Commission

Scott Bacon, Bonnie Browne, Philip Dorsey, Kaitlin Fraer, Phil Langley, Charlie Mattingly, James Norris, Jr., Richard Polk, Stephen Reeves, Michael Sirk, Joseph Wood

Airport Advisory Board

James Alexander, Albert Babcock, George Hill, Robert Lightstone, Henri C. T. Sahut, Kevin Suggs, Robert Zaorski

Animal Control Advisory Board

Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Dr. David Langford, Dr. Patricia Richardson, Steven Tuttle, Rita Weaver

Board of Appeals

Guy Bradley III, Lynn Delahay, Daniel Ichniowski, Wayne Miedzinski, Ronald Payne Sr., Rich Richardson

Board of Trustees Museum Division

Michael Blackwell, Dr. Catherine Bowes, Michael Brown, Amy Davis, John Deatruck, Dr. Regina Faden, Robin Finnacom, Lynn Fitrell, Laura Friess, Karla Langhus, Mary J. Pettit

Building Code Board of Appeals

Donald Haskin, Wayne Hunt, Michael Mummaugh, Stephen Wilson, Brian Yount

Commission for People with Disabilities

John Eid, Ian Fairclough, Susie Fowler, Jaclyn Hall, Brad Hamlet, Philip Horne, Robin Johnson, Jennifer Rudolph, Kegan Zimmerman

Commission for Women

Kimberly Bannister, Jazmine Bottoms-Saunders, Mary Fearn, Carolyn Guy, Marta Kelsey, Juanita Nether, Norma Pipkin, Taylor Spencer-Davis, Catherine Stewart, Katherine Stone, Kathleen Werner

Commission on Aging

Rowena Bossio, Carolyn Guy, Christine Morgan, Omonigho Olumese, Janet Perryman, Thomas Ridley Jr.

Commission on the Environment

Molly Boron, Norman Dean Jr., Cristina Perez, Melissa Rodriguez, George Thompson, Kristen Whitesell

Economic Development Commission

Curtis Brown, Lisa Creason-Colavito, Phil Dorsey, Brooke Higgs-Turner, Barbara Ives, Tristan Marino, Gerald Edward Meyerman, Theresa Mitchell, Dr. Dale Moore, Trisha Post, Elizabeth Torgerson

Electrical Examiners Board

Ron Derby, Donald Haskin, Ronald Phetteplace, Robert Spence

Elms Advisory Committee

George Baroniak, Charles Cameron

Emergency Services Board

Gary Bell, Shawn Davidson, Ken Hicks, CP Miedzinski, J. A. Nelson, Hattie Norris

Ethics Commission

Reverend Lawrence Crabtree, Dr. Joseph DeVitis, Kathleen McClernan-Walz, Joseph Russell, David Willenborg

Family Violence Coordinating Council

Tania Ceasar, Annie Kenny

Historic Preservation Commission

Anibal Delgado, Robert Hurry, Craig Lukezic, Mary Mckay, Ginger Newman-Askew, Teresa Wilson

Housing Authority Board

Roy Alvey, Michael Bellis, Joshua Brewster, Tina Deanm, Natalie Weech, Alexis Zoss

Human Relations Commission

Janet Bello, Vante Burkes, Joanna Colvin, Adrienne Dillahunt, Cheremie Frisby-Spencer, Sheriff Steve Hall, Max Levasseur, Pastor Chris McCombs, Ashley Raley, Sean Wickers

Library Board of Trustees

Michael Dunn, James Hanley, John Johnston, Thomas Russell, Tressa Setlak, Janice Walthour

Local Management Board

Anna Cotton, Troy Cowan, Celia Engel

LOSAP

John Walters

Metropolitan Commission

Roy Alvey, Dale Antosh, Keith Dugan, Keith Fairfax, Gerald Meyerman, Joseph Russell, Robert Russell

Planning Commission

Merl Evans, Joseph Fazekas, William Hall III, Patricia Robrecht, Joseph St. Clair, Kim Summers, James Thompson, Joseph Van Kirk

Plumbing Gas Fuel Board

John Fluhart, Daniel Garrison, Richard Montgomery

Police Accountability Board

Nicloas Cromwell, Michelle Dowleyne, Leslie Everett, Frank Kauffman, John Lydon III, Dr. Linda Lymas, Thomas Phelan, Charles Shilling, Joseph Van Kirk

Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board

Joseph Gardner, Max Levasseur

Recreation and Parks Board

Donald Degraves Sr., Veronica Johnson, Glenn Larnerd Jr., John Lydon III, Chanda Norton, Gregory Weaver

Retiree Benefit Trust of St. Mary's County

Scott Ostrow

Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan Board

John Walters

Social Services Board

Beverly Ballard, Michael Blackwell, Kyle Bishop, Richard Buckler, Michelle Dowleyne, Joyce Dyson, Jeffrey Gibson, Alycia Stack, Annette Wood

Transportation Advisory Committee

Rowena Bossio, Laura Carrington, William Hill, Thomas Rogers

Tri-County Animal Shelter Advisory Board

Makalya Daras, Brooke Higgs-Turner, Robert Mcgann

Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board

Terry Black, Thomas Eicholtz, Brian Hammett, Jim Hodges, Bernard Kneeland Jr., David Phalen, Gregory Weaver

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

I move to adjourn as Commissioners of St. Mary's County and reconvene as the St. Mary's County Board of Health.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

5. ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

A. BOARD OF HEALTH

Present: Dr. Meenakshi Brewster, Health Officer

Dr. Brewster presented updated Covid-19 data. She states the Community Transmission rate is in the high range, but the Community Level burden on Hospitals is low. Local Public Health Recommendations include citizens getting vaccine boosters and wearing a mask in Health Care Facilities, indoor crowded public settings, and when among high-risk citizens. She also discussed the School Based Health Centers, SMC Health Hub and the new 988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AS THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

I move to adjourn as the St. Mary's County Board of Health and reconvene as the Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

6. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR FEBRUARY 7 AND 14, 2023.

B. CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY - Juror Fees Funding Budget Increase

I move to approve the request by the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County of \$60,000 in additional budget funds to cover the cost of jurors fees through the end of FY2023.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

C. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association Lease Extension

I move to approve the lease Addendum between the St. Mary's County Commissioners and the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum Association extending the term to four (4) three-year term option periods and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

D. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES - Accepting addition funding / Exelon Grant

I move to approve the funding for the Exelon Grant, Project OT2320 in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Exelon Generation Company, LLC on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and budget amendment for \$10,000 to increase budget based on the award and have by Commissioner President execute all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

E. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2023 Area Plan Application

I move to approve the FY2023 Area Plan Application update and Notice of Grant Award for the state grants, Project #s MD2301, MD2302, MD2304, MD2306, MD2314 from the Maryland Department of Aging on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services in the amount of \$169,599 to provide various programs and services to the seniors of St. Mary's County, the related budget amendments for the respective project budgets and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

**F. DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS - Three Notch Trail Phase Seven-
Purchase of Real Property**

I move to approve the purchase of a real property parcel, containing 8.09 acres, located in the Sixth Election District, from the Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc., in the amount of \$500,000; and to authorize Commissioner President Guy to sign the Contract for Sale of Real Estate and any other documents necessary to finalize the transfer.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

**G. DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS - Approval of Shannon Farm Master
Plan**

I move to approve the Shannon Farm Master Plan document, subject to future Capital Project budget appropriations to be addressed during the CIP Budget process.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

H. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Approve Employment Contract

MOTION 1: I move to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the employment contract for the St. Mary's County Government Director of Recreation and Parks with terms and conditions as indicated.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 2: I move to approve a Deputy Director position for the Department of Recreation and Parks with FY23 funding from department salary savings.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

7. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Updates

MOTION 1: I move to support HB 28 -Income Tax - Credit for Caregivers of Senior Family Members and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of support to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 2: I move to support SB 32 - Property Tax - Exemption for Dwellings of Disabled Veterans and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of support to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 3: I move to oppose HB 447 - Local Elections - County Commissioner - District Voting unless approved by the citizens of St. Mary's County by local referendum and authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of opposition to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 4: I move to support the bill entitled “St. Mary’s County – County Commissioners Election Method – Straw Ballot” as requested by Delegate Matt Morgan and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of support to the Delegation and House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 5: I move to support HB 103 - Income Tax - Maryland Residential Investment Tax Credit and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of support to House and Senate Committees for hearings on this bill.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

8. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week and provided general comments.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

I move to enter into Closed Session to discuss Real Property and Personnel.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

9. CLOSED SESSION

A. REAL PROPERTY

Present: James R. Guy, President

Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner

Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

David Weiskopf, Interim County Administrator

Arthur Shepherd, Director, Dept. Land Use and Growth Management

Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(2) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 11:59 a.m. - 12:09 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To hold preliminary discussions concerning the purchase or disposition of real property.

B. PERSONNEL

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human Resources
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 12:09 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To consider or discuss the assignment, promotion, resignation, salary, demotion, dismissal, reprimand, or appointment of a member of a public agency.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.
Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on February 7, 2023.

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

I move to enter into Closed Session to discuss Personnel.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

11. CLOSED SESSION

A. PERSONNEL

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human Resources
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 5:30 p.m. - 6:25 p.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To consider or discuss the assignment, promotion, resignation, salary, demotion, dismissal, reprimand, or appointment of a member of a public agency.

12. PUBLIC FORUM

Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Michael R. Alderson Jr.
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, Interim County Administrator
Jenna Guzman, Communications Director, Public Information Office
Julie Burch, Recorder

Commissioner President Guy opened the Public Forum at 6:30 p.m. and requested Jenna Guzman provide the format for the meeting.

Public comments given by:

Joan Sullivan-Cowan, 24144 South Essex Drive, Lexington Park, MD
Will Gillingwater, 27344 Tin Top School Road, Mechanicsville, MD
Patricia Link, 27172 Neale Court, Mechanicsville, MD
Marcia Greenberg, 47977 Memory Lane, Lexington Park, MD
Dr. Janice Walthour, 20493 Partins Lane, Lexington Park, MD
Troy Cowan, 24144 South Essex Drive, Lexington Park, MD
Mary Ludwig, 23356 Marview Court, Leonardtown, MD
Chris Alderucci, 23575 Balmar Drive, Leonardtown, MD
Mike Thompson, 43865 Thompson Farm Lane, Hollywood, MD
Amelia Yunker, Lexington Park, MD
David Shaner, 41353 Holiday Way, Leonardtown, MD
Lawrence Ludwig, 23356 Marview Court, Leonardtown, MD
Annie Courtney, 21338 Jefferson Drive, Lexington Park MD
Roy Fedders, 16690 St. Jeromes Neck Road, Dameron, MD
Bennett Wilson, 23158 Town Run Drive, Leonardtown, MD
Jim Krilick, 16640 St. Jeromes Road, Dameron, MD
Jaymi Sterling, Leonardtown, MD
Mike Brown, 23078 Esperanza Drive, Lexington Park, MD

Dante Eubanks, 40618 Breton Oaks Lane, Leonardtown, MD

Commissioner President Guy closed the Public Forum at 7:35 p.m.