

## **Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, October 3, 2023)**

*Generated by Julie Burch on Tuesday, October 3, 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, County Administrator  
Jenna Guzman, Communication Director, Public Information Office  
Julie Burch, Recorder

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 includes the Minutes of September 26, 2023.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## **2. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS**

Proclamations were presented for:

- A. National Faith & Blue Weekend 2023
- B. 4-H Week 2023
- C. Walktober
- D. National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- E. Case Management Recognition Week
- F. World Architecture Day

Commendations for Volunteer Service to 4-H were presented to:

- A. John and Ann Richards
- B. Robert Trossbach
- C. Rose Guyther

## **3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR OCTOBER 17 AND 24.** There will be no meeting of the Commissioners on October 10, 2023.

**B. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY** - Proposed Lease at St. Mary's County Regional Airport - Airport Development, LLC to assume and amend the SM Hangars Lease

I move to approve the "Lease and Operating Agreement, Assignment and Amendment" authorizing Airport Development, LLC to assume and amend the "Lease and Operating Agreement by and between and assignments Board of County Commissioners of St. Mary's County as landlord and S.M. Hangers, Inc. as tenant and Airport Properties, Inc., St. Mary's Hangar Association, Inc." at St. Mary's County Regional Airport and to approve and authorize Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

**C. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES** - FY2024 Senior Rides, Project MD2405 Notification of Grant Award

I move to approve the Senior Rides Operating Grant Agreement, Project #MD2405, from the Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland Transit Administration on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging & Human Services in the amount of \$14,000 which includes other revenue and county funding, to coordinate door-to-door transportation for low and moderate income seniors who are unable to use other transportation options 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

**D. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** - Personnel

**MOTION #1:** I move to approve the employment contract for the County Attorney for St. Mary's County Government and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

**MOTION #2:** I move to approve converting the vacant Chief of EMS Career Operations from a merit to a contract position.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

#### **4. COMMISSIONERS' TIME**

The Commissioners highlighted events 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.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

#### **5. CLOSED SESSION**

##### **A. REAL PROPERTY**

Present: James R. Guy, President

Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner

Eric Colvin, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

David Weiskopf, County Administrator

David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator

Arthur Shepherd, Director, Dept. of Recreation and Parks

Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(6) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 10:31 a.m. - 10:38 a.m.

Location: Savich Conference Room

Purpose: To hold preliminary discussions concerning the purchase of property.

#### **6. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on October 17, 2023.

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JB

Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

**7. JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY AND THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION**, Chesapeake Building, 41770 Baldrige St., Leonardtown, MD

## **A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - 2024 Legislative Proposals**

**Present:** James R. Guy, President  
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner  
Eric Colvin, Commissioner  
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner  
David Weiskopf, County Administrator  
John Houser, Assistant County Attorney  
Jenna Guzman, Communication Director, Public Information Office  
Amy Carter, Video Media Producer  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

**Delegation:** Delegate Todd Morgan, Delegation Chair  
Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Matt Morgan  
Delegate Brian Crosby

Commissioner President Guy called the Joint Meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the St. Mary's County Delegation to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Following opening remarks by Commissioner President Guy and Delegate Todd Morgan, John Houser, Assistant County Attorney presented the proposed legislative items.

Proposal #1 - Requiring State-Owned Nursing Homes to Report Certain Deficiencies to Local Government Body  
Proposal #2 - Creating New Class of Beer and Wine License for Nonprofit Community Theatres  
Proposal #3 - Creating New Class of Permits for Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tastings  
Proposal #4 - Reporting to the General Assembly on which Public Highways the Commissioners Consider Appropriate for the Operations of Golf Carts  
Other #5

Delegate Matt Morgan presented 3 items pertaining to transparency that he is recommending for draft legislation: (1) Require St. Mary's County Housing Authority to issue a report to the County Commissioners and the Delegation and make available on their website reporting how many housing vouchers have been issued, the high and the low, the average amount of those vouchers, the location of recipient, and the funding source of the voucher; (2) Require the Local Department of education to post a performance dashboard to their website containing test scores, graduation rate, student population, average class size, student suspension, crimes committed on school property, student arrests, and incident report, as well as other information that may be helpful to parents; and, (3) A local law allowing Home School Children to participate in Public School extracurricular activities at their locating zones school.

Senator Bailey discussed bills that will affect the County and/or State that have been pre filed or are on their radar. The Jamari Duckett Law, which increases the penalty for a person who kills another person and is convicted of manslaughter with an automobile or vessel. A Waterway Notification System, like the Amber Alert and Silver Alert, is an initiative of Anne Arundel, St.

Mary's, and Dorchester Counties. He mentioned an incident where watermen were near an area where a drowning occurred and had they been alerted after the 911 call was made, they could have responded immediately. He noted a placeholder for a Sports Complex in St. Mary's County. Also under consideration is a Local Bond Initiative which would help areas like Valley Lee with solar panels, Solomons with their rescue boat, Ryken's refurbishment and Kennedy Krieger School in conjunction with Greenwell Park.

The County Administrator then provided guidelines for citizen remarks and opened the public comment period.

**Comments:**

Proposal #1: None

Proposal #2: Jonathan Berry, 41452 Margrove Circle, Leonardtown, MD 20650

Proposal #3: None

Proposal #4: None

Other #5: Lawrence Ludwig, 23356 Marview Ct., Leonardtown, MD 20650

Mary Ludwig, 23356 Marview Ct., Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dee Rathbone, McKays Beach Road, Leonardtown, MD 20650

Melissa Willey, 18470 Matthew Dr., Lexington Park, MD 20653

Commissioner President Guy closed the Joint Meeting with the Delegation at 7:05 p.m.