

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, January 9, 2024)
Generated by Julie Burch on Wednesday, January 10, 2024

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 Guzma, Communication Director, Public Information Office

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 December 12, 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. PROCLAMATION

A proclamation was presented for National Mentoring Month 2024.

3. COMMENDATION

A commendation was presented to Carl Ball for his retirement.

4. MAIN AGENDA ITEM

A. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES - Decision - St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan Amendment 2024-1

I move to approve Amendment 2024-1 to the Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan as presented with the ordinance taking effect February 1, 2024.

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

B. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Request for Public Hearing for Zoning Text Amendment 03-341 Adding Use Type 74 as Allowable Use in LCI and APZ-2

Commissioner Ostrow recused himself from voting on this matter.

I move to authorize a public hearing on the morning of January 30, 2024, at a time to be determined, to present the proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 285 of the Code of St. Mary's Code to allow Use Type #74, Fast Food Restaurant, in the LCI zoning district and APZ 2 overlay.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson Jr.

5. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR JANUARY 23 AND 30, 2024. There will be no Commissioners meeting on January 16, 2024.

B. STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - FY24 GOCPYVS Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Award

I move to approve the FY24 GOCPYVS Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Award and authorize the Commissioner President to sign any and 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. CIRCUIT COURT FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY - Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement Application - Child Support Enforcement

I move to approve the application for the Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement in the amount of \$12,587.00 from the State of Maryland DHS Child Support Division on behalf of the St. Mary's County Circuit Court and authorize 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. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - American Rescue Grant Update

I move to accept the update to the American Rescue plan as presented.

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

E. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR - Approve Employment Contract

I move to approve the employment contract for the St. Mary's County Government Director of Emergency Services and to 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

6. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Updates

Present: John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

The following bills were discussed:

HB 12/ SB 67 - Property Tax Credit - Retail Service Station Conversions

HB 17 / SB 274 - Charter Counties - Comprehensive Plans - Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

HB 19 / SB 207 - Natural Resources - Northern Snakehead - Common Name

HB 63 /SB 6 - Property Tax - Credit for Dwelling House of Disabled Veterans - Alterations

SB 12 - College of Southern Maryland - Board of Trustees Membership - Alterations

SB 81 - Higher Education - College of Southern Maryland - Budget

HB 3 - Land Use - Expedited Development Review Processes for Affordable Housing - Requirements

HB 43 - Motor Vehicle Registration - Exceptions for Golf Carts - Authorization

7. 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 for Legal Advice.

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

8. CLOSED SESSION

A. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Arthur Shepherd, Director, Dept. of Recreation and Parks
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(12) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 10:40 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

B. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Roxana Pierce, Law Firm of Dicello Levitt
David D. Burnett, Law Firm of Dicello Levitt
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(12) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Location: Savich Conference Room
Purpose: To receive legal advice from counsel.

C. LEGAL ADVICE

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

