

## **Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, May 21, 2024)**

*Generated by Julie Burch on Tuesday, May 21, 2024*

### **1. JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY AND THE ST. MARYS COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION - 23121 Camden Way, California, MD**

#### **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  
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator  
Jenna Guzman, Communications Director, Public Information Office  
Jim Gotsch, Director, Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Jessica Andritz, Director, Department of Land Use and Growth Management  
Amy Carter, Video Media Producer  
Andrew Beckman, Video Media Assistant

#### **St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission**

Gerald Meyerman, Chairman, 1st Election District  
Dale Antosh, 4th & 5th Election District  
Keith S, Dugan, 6th Election District  
Joseph Gould, 8th Election District  
George Ericksen, Executive Director  
Patty Stiegman, Chief Financial Officer  
Christy Hollander, P.E. Chief Engineer  
Heather Moritz, St. Mary's County Health Department

Commissioner President Guy called the joint meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. in the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission Meeting Room, 23121 Camden Way, California, MD.

Following opening remarks from Commissioner President Guy and MetCom Commissioner Dale Antosh, the following items were presented and discussed.

#### **A. Capital Improvement Projects Update**

##### **Present:**

Jim Gotsch, Director, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation  
Christy Hollander, P.E. Chief Engineer, Metropolitan Commission

Updates were provided for the following joint projects: FDR Boulevard, Southhampton Revitalization Project, Shangri-La Drive, Town Creek, and Breton Bay.

## **B. Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan, Problem Water and Sewer Areas**

### **Present:**

George Ericksen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Commission  
Heather Moritz, St. Mary's County Health Department

An update was provided on a proactive planned effort to address problem water and sewer areas in St. Mary's County.

## **C. EDU Transfer Program**

### **Present:**

Jessica Andritz, Director, Department of Land Use and Growth Management  
George Ericksen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Commission

The proposed EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit) Transfer Program was discussed. The EDU transfer program would allow the transfer of inactive EDU's from one lot or parcel of land to another within the same wastewater treatment plant service area or water system.

## **D. EPA Lead and Cooper Rule**

### **Present:**

George Ericksen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Commission

A handout was provided on the EPA Mandated Lead and Copper Rule that will be effective on October 16, 2024.

## **E. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - ST. MARY'S METROPOLITAN COMMISSION - Approval of FY2025 Capital Improvement Budget and FY2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan**

I move to approve the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission's FY2025 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) and FY2026-2030 Plan in accordance with Section 113-30 of the Code of St. Mary's County

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

## **2. ADJOURN AND RETURN TO THE CHESAPEAKE BUILDING**

Following closing remarks by Commissioner President Guy the meeting closed at 10:33 a.m.

### **3. WELCOME**

#### **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, Communications 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 11:12 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 May 14, 2024.

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

### **4. PROCLAMATIONS**

Proclamations were presented for:

- A. Mental Health Awareness Month
- B. National EMS Week
- C. National Transportation Week
- D. National Public Works Week

### **5. MAIN AGENDA ITEM**

**A. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE** - Commissioners of St. Mary's County Set Rates and Approves FY2025 Operating and Capital Budgets

**MOTION 1:** I move to approve the local income tax increase to 3.20% of net taxable income effective January 1, 2025.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

**MOTION 2:** I move to approve the fees and charges included in the public hearing.

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

**MOTION 3:** I move to approve the increase Fire Tax Rate to 5.6 cents for Leonardtown VFD.

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

**MOTION 4:** I move to approve the increase Fire Tax Rate to 5.6 cents for Mechanicsville VFD.

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

**MOTION 5:** I move to approve the increase Fire Tax Rate to 5.6 cents for Ridge VFD.

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

**MOTION 6:** I move to approve and execute the Revenue Ordinance for FY2025, which sets the tax rates.

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

**MOTION 7:** I move to approve and execute the Appropriation Ordinance for FY2025, which identifies appropriations, and includes compensation increase for appointed employees.

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

**MOTION 8:** I move to approve the FY2025 Budget, as set forth in the schedules and documents included in the submission, and execute Budget Estimates page evidencing our approval of the itemized budget.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Alderson, Ostrow

Nay: Commissioner Hewitt

**MOTION 9:** I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Annual Budget Certification Statement for FY2025 and submit to the Maryland State Department of Education.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Alderson, Ostrow

Nay: Commissioner Hewitt

**MOTION 10:** I move to submit the executed FY2025 Nonrecurring Cost Requests Form and related documents to be submitted to the Maryland State Department of Education.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## **6. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR JUNE 4 AND JUNE 11, 2024.** There will be no meeting of the Commissioners on May 28, 2024.

**B. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - Budget Amendment for Commission for Women**

I move to approve the budget amendment establishing budget authority related to the \$4,880 excess revenues collected over the budgeted amount for the Commission for Women's Annual Banquet and to realign funds to be contributed to support the Jane Hale Sypher Scholarship Fund at the College of Southern Maryland and authorize the Commissioner President to 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

**C. DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS - Program Open Space Award - Additional funding for Skate Parks**

I move to approve and accept the additional Program Open Space Funding for the Nicolet and Chaptico Parks Skate Park project and authorize the Commissioner President to sign 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 RECREATION AND PARKS - Piney Point Pier - Waterway Improvement Grant Award**

I move to approve the Waterway Improvement Fund grant award in the amount of \$10,000 for the repairs needed at the Piney Point Lighthouse Park Pier and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

**7. 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 Personnel.

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. PERSONNEL**

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  
Catherine Pratson, Director, Dept. of Human Resources  
Jennifer Utz, Director, Dept. of Emergency Services  
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(1) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland  
Time Held: 12:40 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.  
Location: Savich Conference Room  
Purpose: To discuss the dismissal of a member of a public agency.

**MOTION IN OPEN SESSION**

I move to approve the proposed contract personnel action as presented.

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

**9. ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.  
Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on June 4, 2024.

                    JB                      
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator