

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, April 28, 2015)

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Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Tom Jarboe
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
Commissioner John E. O'Connor
County Administrator, Dr. Rebecca Bridgett
Sharon Ferris, Recorder

1. WELCOME

Commissioner President Guy called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Chesapeake Building meeting room, Governmental Center.

Approval of Minutes

I move to approve the minutes of April 21, 2015, as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

2. RECOGNITION

PROCLAMATION WAS PRESENTED FOR NATIONAL NURSES WEEK (St. Mary's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center)

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR MAY 5 AND MAY 12, 2015

B. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - Approve and Execute BJAG Grant Application for Security Cameras at Adult Detention Center (ADC)

I move to approve the Byrne Justice Assistance Program-2011 grant application from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention on behalf of the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$27,047 for enhancement of the security monitoring system at the Adult Detention Center, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner John E. O'Connor.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

C. DEPT. OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2015 Outpatient Drug Court Treatment Sub-

recipient Agreement funded through the DHMH BHA Grants

I move to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Sub-recipient Agreement related to Project #MD1597 between the County and Step N2 Recovery Services, LLC. for funding Drug Court Treatment Outpatient Services through the previously approved FY2015 Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene BHA Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services Grant.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

D. COUNTY ATTORNEY - Renewal of Lease with St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce

I move that the Office of the County Attorney notify the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce that the lease of space at the main terminal of the Captain Walter Francis Duke Airport is renewed for a three year term commencing September 1, 2015.

Motion by Commissioner John E. O'Connor, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

E. COUNTY ATTORNEY - Delegation of Public Hearings on Amendments to the St. Mary's County Comprehensive Water & Sewer Plan

The Commissioners discussed the pros/cons of authorizing the Director of the Department of Land Use and Growth Management to hold public hearings and make final decisions on amendments to the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan in growth areas. Growth Areas are defined as Development Districts, Town Centers and Village Centers. It was agreed to change the wording of the proposed motion from Growth Areas to Development Districts.

Ms. Shelby Guazzo, Planning Commission member, stated it was her understanding that the Planning Commission should have been informed prior to making this type of recommendation.

I move that the Resolution designating the Director of the Department of Land Use and Growth Management to conduct public hearings on behalf of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County for the purpose of considering and approving amendments to the St. Mary's County Comprehensive Water & Sewer Plan in development districts be adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Tom Jarboe, second by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, O'Connor

Nay: Commissioner Morgan

4. MAIN AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

A. DEPT. OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT: Decision on local amendment of the Maryland Building Performance Standards (MBPS) to exempt fire sprinkler requirements under two specific circumstances (described below).

Present: Phil Shire, Director
Brian Taylor, Code Coordinator

A public hearing was held on March 31, 2014, with public testimony from five citizens at the hearing and no additional comments during the 10-day open period. This amendment will only exempt fire sprinkler requirements under two specific circumstances: (1) one and two family dwellings that are not connected to electrical utility; or (2) a lot served by substandard existing service lines from a water main to the property that is less than a normal one-inch size. He addressed the concerns of citizens at the public hearing as follows:

Estimated cost of residential sprinkler system varies but centers around \$1.50 - \$2.50 per sq ft. (unable to determine difference in cost on private wells vs. community water supply, but a 300-gallon water tank is required for homes on private wells).

Tax credit for voluntary installation of sprinkler system: Applicable mainly to homes on private wells. Credit offer began in Feb. 2008, expired Feb. 2011, and extended to Feb. 2014. In the six years the credit was in effect, a total of three applicants took advantage of the \$1,500 credit for new construction. A \$2,000 credit was available for retrofitting existing homes, but no one applied.

Slow and unpredictable response time for inspection of sprinkler systems by Fire Marshal is a concern shared by builders. LUGM staff will arrange meeting with appropriate staff from Fire Marshal's office to remedy this weak link in our provision of customer service.

Properties with unexpired utility agreements. Metcom has no record of any such agreements.

Properties with substandard community water lines less than one-inch diameter. Metcom has no accurate inventory of such lines, and those that exist may have been installed up to 60 years ago. New or replacement homes on such properties will be identified on a case-by-case basis via the building permit process. This exemption will expire on January 1, 2016.

I move that the amendment be adopted as proposed.

Motion by Commissioner Todd B. Morgan, second by Commissioner Tom Jarboe.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Jarboe, Morgan, O'Connor

5. COMMISSIONER'S TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the last week.

Commissioner Hewitt spoke with parents at the Gymnastic Center in Lexington Park and suggested the County look at how they are treating their customers and noted that the parents are not happy with the payment policy.

Commissioner Jarboe stated that during his travel he has seen many small towns with Community Centers and suggested that is something the County might want to consider for children.

The Commissioners want to start the process for the Code Home Rule form of government for this

County with hopes of getting it on the ballot this fall.

6. DISCUSSION

A. Discussion with David R. Craig, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning

Secretary Craig commented that he had been through the process of changing forms of County Government and suggested that the Commissioners have representatives from counties with the different forms government come speak to them on the pros/cons. He provided an overview of the Department of Planning and explained function of each division. The Commissioners and Secretary Craig then departed to tour the two potential library sites on Leonard's Grant Parkway and on Lawrence Avenue.

7. BUSINESS LUNCH WITH MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING SECRETARY DAVID R. CRAIG AT THE AVENMAR COMMUNITY CENTER, 41165 HERON'S WAY, LEONARDTOWN MD

Following the visit to potential sites for the library the Commissioners hosted a working luncheon with Secretary Craig for further discussion on the interaction of the Maryland Dept. of Planning with counties as they progress.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:51 pm.

Minutes Approved by Commissioners of St. Mary's County on _____

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)