

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
GOVERNMENTAL CENTER  
Tuesday, December 7, 2004**

**Present:** Commissioner President Thomas F. McKay  
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement  
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe  
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.  
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley  
George G. Forrest, County Administrator  
Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant (Recorder)  
Kate Mauck, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:11 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER**

**Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Check Register. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, November 30, 2004. Motion carried.**

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS MUSICAL PRESENTATION**

The Chopticon High School Peace Pipers performed musical selections and were presented with Commendations from the Board of County Commissioners.

**RECOGNITION OF COMMITMENT TO 2004 EXCELLENCE  
HOMEOWNERSHIP AWARD**

The Board of County Commissioners recognized the St. Mary's County Housing Authority for their receipt of the Commitment to 2004 Excellence Homeownership Award at the Governor's Housing Conference held on November 16, 2004.

*Donna Gebicke transcribed the following meeting minutes:*

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: BRIDGE TO EXCELLENCE  
MASTER PLAN UPDATE FOR 2004**

Present: Dr. R. Lorraine Fulton, Deputy Superintendent of Schools  
Linda Dudderar, Director of Elementary Curriculum and Instruction  
Cathy Allen, Chair, Board of Education  
Daniel Carney, Chief Financial Officer, St. Mary's County Public Schools

Dr. Fulton and Ms. Dudderar provided the Board with a review of the Bridge to Excellence Master Plan Update for 2004, highlighting the revisions in content and format, as well as how the plan is fully aligned with the Bridge to Excellence joint Resolution signed by the Board of County Commissioners and Board of Education in April 2004.

The components of the joint Resolution are contained in the plan: a clear mechanism to promote the effective and efficient use of resources through the fully aligned budget component on each page of the document; goals 1 and 2 establish positive outcomes for student achievement; goal 3 establishes positive outcomes for teacher quality; and each page of the document supports the fiscal responsibility through the alignment and detail of SMCPS spending plan. Also included in the updated plan are clear objectives, strategies and activities to impact: student achievement in elementary, middle and high school in reading and mathematics; Scholastic Aptitude Test scores and the participation rate; the quality, recruitment and retention of teachers; teacher turnover; and class size goals.

The updated plan is targeted toward improving the academic achievements of *all* students while accelerating the success of those students not yet achieving proficiency. Major initiatives of the updated plan include: Special Education, Full Day Kindergarten, Eleven-month School, Academic Literacy I and II, New Reading Program, Safe Schools Task Force, and Mathematics Acceleration.

Commissioner President McKay asked Dr. Fulton if there is anything that the Board of County Commissioners needed to be concerned about relative to the SMCPS budget. Dr. Fulton responded that the budget is on track and there is absolutely no basis for any concern in that regard.

*Kate Mauck recorded the remaining meeting minutes:*

## **COMPENSATION REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT**

Present: F. Elliott (Sonny) Burch, Chair – Legislative Appointment  
John Bergin, Commission Member – Republican Central Appointment  
Wayne Pettit, Commission Member – BOCC Appointment  
John (Jack) Candela, Commission Member – BOCC Appointment  
John Norris, III, County Attorney  
George Forrest, Commission Member

Mr. Burch provided details of the Compensation Review Commission Report. Minutes of the Commission's meetings of November 16, November 23, and November 30, 2004

were submitted for the record. In addition to the above listed Commission Members in attendance at today's meeting, the following members served on the Compensation Review Commission as well:

Judith Sterling – Legislative Appointment  
 Jacqueline Miller – BOCC Appointment  
 Merv Hampton – Democratic Central Appointment  
 Risë Carter, Recorder

Recommendations for elected positions were as follows:

President of County Commissioners: existing	\$40,000	2007 & benefits to remain as existing
	41,000	2008
	42,000	2009
	43,000	2010
Other Commissioners: existing	\$35,000	2007 & benefits to remain as existing
	36,000	2008
	37,000	2009
	38,000	2010
County Treasurer:	\$45,000	2007
	46,000	2008
	47,000	2009
	48,000	2010
Sheriff:	\$76,000	2007
	78,000	2008
	80,000	2009
	82,000	2010
Orphans Court Judges: expenses	\$ 6,000	2007 + up to \$1000/year in expenses
	6,500	2008
	7,000	2009
	7,500	2010
State's Attorney: salary pursuant	90% of the District Court Judges annual salary pursuant	to law

The Board of County Commissioners previously directed the Commission to review the salaries of the St. Mary's County Board of Education members as well. A request to have the Board of Education included in the normal four-year review cycle by the Compensation Review Commission has been forwarded to the St. Mary's County

Legislative Delegation. The recommendations for compensation for Board of Education members were as follows:

Chair, Board of Education	\$7,000	2007
	7,250	2008
	7,500	2009
	7,750	2010
Other Members, Board of Education	\$6,000	2007
	6,250	2008
	6,500	2009
	6,750	2010

The Commission reported that the Sheriff's salary recommendation would place that salary on par with counties of like size. The Sheriff's current salary is below that of many of the captains, lieutenants, and even corporals that work for him. The Commission will meet again in four years for another salary compensation review for elected officials, as mandated by law.

#### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

1. Draft Agendas for December 13 and 14, 2004
2. **Human Resources, Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan Board of Trustees**

Present: Dee Snyder, Human Resources, Benefits Coordinator  
Elaine Kramer, Chief Financial Officer  
John Norris III, County Attorney

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve the Third Amendment to Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan. Commissioner President McKay voted against the motion, all others voted in favor. Motion carried 4:1.**

After the vote was taken, new information was presented by staff regarding the requirement to place this matter on an agenda in the form of a public hearing. Background information was presented by Ms. Kramer and Mr. Norris, and it was determined that an Ordinance was required to accomplish any amendments to the Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan. Therefore, the Board of County Commissioners determined to rescind the motion.

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to rescind the previous motion to approve the Third Amendment to Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan. Motion carried.**

**Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize staff to prepare the necessary Ordinance for the Third Amendment to Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan and to schedule a public hearing for that Ordinance. Motion carried.**

### 3. Finance Department

Present: Elaine Kramer, Chief Financial Officer

**Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve the one-time buy-down of leave for Desiree Ridgell, Accounting Officer, and approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Budget Amendment that utilizes savings in audit fees attributable to the preparation of reports to partially fund the leave buy-down. Motion carried.**

### COMMISSIONERS' TIME

#### Commissioner Raley

Expressed congratulations to the Board of Education and our staff for their role in the Carver Elementary School Groundbreaking event, which was attended by the Governor.

Expressed thanks to the parents of the students of Lettie Dent Elementary School for the Gingerbread House Auction. Commissioner Jarboe attended the event as well, and he placed bids a couple of times, helping to raise prices. Approximately \$3,800 was raised, which will be given for clothing, food, etc. for needy families in the Mechanicsville/Charlotte Hall area.

Expressed congratulations to the Board of Education for the festivities on behalf of Dr. Patricia Richardson's retirement celebration. Dr. Richardson has done a lot for St. Mary's County and she will be greatly missed.

Announced that this coming Sunday at 4:30, Hospice will have a reception in memory of deceased citizens, and the public is invited to attend that event.

#### Commissioner Dement

Also expressed congratulations to Dr. Richardson for her farewell dinner.

Expressed his apologies to the State Farm Insurance Agency for overlooking their ribbon-cutting ceremony. He stopped by and toured the facility on Route 235 with Mr. Phil Riehl later that day.

Also attended the Carver Elementary School Groundbreaking Ceremony, which was long overdue.

Stated that he and Commissioner Mattingly attended the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary event for Jake and Mary Agnes Mattingly. Mary Agnes is no relation to Commissioner Mattingly, but is a relative of Commissioner Dement's wife, Shirley.

#### Commissioner Mattingly

Also expressed his congratulations to Jake and Mary Agnes Mattingly, stating that he and Jake have known one another for many years due to their connection with the fire department.

Reported that Commissioners attended the retirement ceremony in honor of Dr. Jane Sypher at the College of Southern Maryland in Leonardtown. There was a great turnout for that event, with a number of former Commissioners and many others in attendance.

Also expressed congratulations to Dr. Patricia Richardson for the retirement celebration.

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and all the citizens of St. Mary's County, expressed sincere condolences to Mr. Bob Harper, upon the recent loss of his daughter. Mr. Harper has been a very active member of the community, serves on the Recreation and Parks Board, and also was the previous Webmaster for the County.

#### Commissioner Jarboe

Had the honor of presenting, on behalf of the Commissioners, a Commendation for the Junior Naval ROTC Program that is conducted at Great Mills High School. Outlined a uniform policy he had discussed with Dr. Richardson years ago, and reported that the policy has since been implemented. Stated that every student in the high schools in St. Mary's County has the option of wearing a uniform and the citizens of the County and their parents should be very proud of them. Chopticon High School has Air Force ROTC, Leonardtown High School as Army ROTC, and then of course, Great Mills High School has the Naval ROTC Program. Captain Kelly provides the knowledge to the students and Marine Sergeant Hamm provides the drilling instruction. Expressed thanks to Dr. Richardson and Dr. Lyman for implementing this great program, which is now in its second year.

#### Commissioner President McKay

Expressed happy birthday wishes to Commissioner Jarboe on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, staff, and the citizens of the County.

Stated that Commissioners attended many recent events, including the retirement ceremonies for Dr. Patricia Richardson, Superintendent of Schools and Dr. Jane Sypher, President of the College of Southern Maryland, Leonardtown Campus. Both these individuals have accomplished much toward education in St. Mary's County. Stated that the community and the County Government stand ready to offer support and encouragement toward new leaders in education in the County.

Reported that Thursday morning, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m., the monthly breakfast between the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education will take place at the Do Dah Deli. Commissioner President McKay encouraged the other Commissioners to attend, if at all possible.

Announced that Commissioners would be departing the meeting in order to attend a Produce Meeting in Loveville. It will be a great opportunity for people to talk about rural heritage, and agriculture is an important part of that heritage. It has to be based on economic incentive. Stated that this is important toward helping farmers to be successful, and although the Commissioners have not been able to accomplish as much as they would like toward this effort, they have been able to make changes in the Zoning Ordinance, which allows this effort to move forward.

Announced also that a public hearing would be conducted this evening regarding Building Permit Fees.

### **BUYERS/SELLERS PRODUCE AUCTION MEETING**

The Board of County Commissioners attended a Buyers/Sellers Produce Auction Meeting, located at 40454 Bishop Road in Loveville, Maryland.

### **BUDGET WORK SESSION**

The Board of County Commissioners conducted a Budget Work Session.

### **PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 91-08, USER FEES, REGARDING PROPOSED BUILDING PERMIT FEES PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY GRANTED BY MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE, ARTICLE 25, SECTION 10D-1**

Present: Denis Canavan, Director, Land Use and Growth Management  
John Norris III, County Attorney  
Harry Knight, Permits Department  
Elaine Kramer, Chief Financial Officer  
John Norris, III, County Attorney

A public hearing was conducted regarding proposed Building Permit Fee amendments. The increase of fees would help administer and cover the costs of services provided. Current fees were set in 1990, with implementation by Resolution #91-08, and have not been increased since that time. Pursuant to the authority granted by Article 25, Section 10D-1 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, building permit fees may be raised by the Board of County Commissioners in December of each year.

The proper notification of the public hearing was made by advertisement in the November 19<sup>th</sup> and November 24<sup>th</sup> editions of *The Enterprise*. Staff reported that the

increases are nominal and outlined that this proposal is part of a fee schedule the Department of Land Use and Growth Management reviewed last April. Mr. Canavan reported that the matter has been reviewed by the Development Review Forum and has their concurrence.

Commissioner President McKay opened the public hearing for public testimony. As no one was present to speak regarding this issue, the public hearing was closed. The record will remain open for ten days in order to accept written public comment, and will then be placed on an agenda of the Board of County Commissioners for discussion and a final decision.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on \_\_\_\_\_

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Kate Mauck, Senior Administrative Coordinator  
to the Board of County Commissioners