

**SPECIAL MEETING
ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
Thursday, March 29, 2001**

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioner Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Alfred A. Lacer, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Administrative Assistant to BOCC (Recorder)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

FISCAL YEAR 2002 RECOMMENDED BUDGET DISCUSSION/DECISION

Present: Elaine Kramer, County Director of Finance
Jeannett Cudmore, Deputy Director of Finance
Marty Jones, Budget Analyst

(Present in the audience were representatives from the Board of Education, Public Schools and other interested citizens.)

Ms. Kramer reviewed the operating portion of the budget pointing out that all the changes discussed at the March 26 work session have been incorporated; and that it is a balanced budget.

During the discussion Ms. Kramer pointed out that the Board needed to make a decision on the Cost-of-Living (COLA) increase for county employees. Three options included 2% on July 1, 2001; 3% on November 1, 2001; or 4% on January 1, 2002. After some discussion the Commissioners agreed to provide a 3% COLA effective November 1; however, if revenue projections are higher than anticipated, the Commissioners would consider making the effective date October 1, 2001.

After further discussion the Commissioners agreed to the following:

To take \$5,000 from Navy Alliance; \$7,000 from St. Mary's Caring, Inc.; and \$8,000 from Watermen's Association; and to fund Greenwell Foundation in the amount of \$20,000.

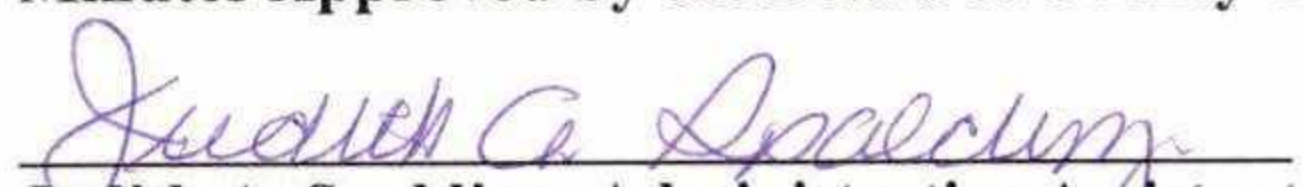
Other funding concerns included the Minority Business Alliance and that the Department of Economic & Community Development be requested to assist the Alliance in seeking grant funding.

After review and discussion of the Operating Budget and the Capital Budget, Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo to approve and sign the Fiscal Year 2002 Recommended Budget as agreed upon, and to take the document to public hearing (scheduled for April 17 and 24 at Great Mills High School). Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on 4/3/01


**Judith A. Spalding, Administrative Assistant
to the Board of County Commissioners**