

May 25, 1965

Present: All commissioners, Mr. W. S. Donaldson, Mr. Oliver Guyther.

Drag Strip

Mr. LaRoque and Mr. Moreland. Discussed proposed strip to be built by Mr. LaRoque in the vicinity of Budd's Creek in the 4th District. Plans and specifications presented for present construction and future expansion and explained to the commissioners. The total investment here will be \$300,000.00, and this will bring additional revenue into the county, as admission for the various events will be \$2.00, from which the county will receive \$.50 for amusement tax.

Mr. LaRoque said that the state police have agreed to patrol the highway when the strip is in use. Presented brochures illustrating grandstand, equipment, etc. (Mr. Hall came in at this point). The strip will have a six foot fence around it and this would be locked up when the strip was not being used. He stated he also plans to build a home here and bring his family into the county. Expects to have this project in operation by May 1, 1965. Mr. LaRoque said he will also submit to the commissioners any future plans for expansion, and stated that the strip itself, will be one mile long and 100 feet wide.

Woodburn Calf Damage

Mrs. James Hester discussed matter of dogs killing calf, and fact that one of the three animals picked up belonged to her. The value set on the calf was \$75.00 and Mrs. Hester agreed to pay one third of this amount, as suggested by the commissioners.

Civil Defense

Gen. Hogaboom, Mr. C. Donaldson, Mr. O. Wood. Gen. Hogaboom presented certificate to Mr. Donaldson for his completion of the Fire Seminar at the University of Maryland. He commended Mr. Donaldson for his ability and fine work in the county.

Parking Lot

Mr. T. Hall and Mr. Schull, of Johnson & Williams. Presented plat for the road to be adjacent to the parking lot at the courthouse. General discussion concerning measurements of same and location of ditches, flow of traffic, etc. General agreement on same.

Roads

Mr. T. Hall mentioned the Golden Beach Road, and authorization to spend the additional \$300.00 for adjustments to be made. There is a possibility of temporary tie-in which would have to be paid for from county funds, at Old Faiths Road, if Mrs. Bowling refuses to give the right of way here. It was Mr. Hall's recommendation to push down the two hills in this road and utilize the forty foot right of way to accomplish this. He asked for approval from the commissioners

for spending \$300.00 to change the centerline for approximately 1700 feet. This will eliminate the problem with the Nicholsons. The commissioners approved this expenditure of \$300.00 as requested by the Beavin Company.

On the Strickland Road, Mr. Hall reported this would have to be surveyed and platted to find the right of way, and would cost at least \$4,000 to construct $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile. To rebuild the entire road would cost about \$30,000.00. The property owners would have to pay for the surveying and platting. Mrs. Strickland will be sent letter regarding the road.

Mental Health - Custer Family

Dr. Houser and Mrs. Rolfe. Discussed child Anthony Custer, who needs treatment. They have been working with him for one year and this child is dangerous, as he has injured several other children and also burned down a barn. The mother is also a patient in the Mental Health Clinic. The father is in the navy, and Dr. Houser wants to remove this child from the community and have him treated at the Finesinger Institute.

Mr. Custer received a letter from the Institute for Children in Owings Mills, Md., which is operated by the state. This letter informed him that his son would be admitted on June 7th, and a certificate of eligibility would have to be presented before this could be done. Mr. Custer was further informed that the county would pay for a portion of the child's care at the institution. Mr. Guyther sent a letter to Mr. Custer stating that the county cannot be responsible for paying for this child's care in the state hospital as the family are not residents of St. Mary's County, and there is no legal authority to allow the county to pay for such care. Letter to Mr. Custer from Mr. Guyther was read, wherein the statement is made that the county cannot be responsible for this financial assistance, mentioning also that Mr. Custer was in the navy and eligible for such assistance through same.

Dr. Houser said he feels the county has a moral obligation to help people like this. There are federal funds that will take care of this particular case, but there might be another one, and he wants to know where he stands in such matters. This is the first case he has had like this, and the Health Dept. has accepted this responsibility since 1943. Mr. Guyther stated that he would legally have to advise the commissioners that the county cannot do this using county funds. He suggested that in the future Dr. Houser bring such matters to the attention of the commissioners when the original application for help is made, then a ruling can be made at that time. He also mentioned that the government subsidizes money from the impact of the navy children being in the area, but this has not been done for medical care of these children, only for schools. He said it would be his legal opinion that the county cannot be responsible for any medical care for navy personnel.

Mr. Burch said he would ask that Dr. Houser bring such matters to the attention of the commissioners at the onset of such things, as suggested above.

Day Care Center

Dr. Houser reported that there is a deficit in this budget and asked the commissioners to authorize \$264.00 to match state money to get them through the

rest of the year. If this is agreeable with the commissioners, Dr. Houser will make up the supplemental budget and present same to Mr. Donaldson. The commissioners agreed to this expenditure.

St. Jeromes Shores Subdivision

Dr. Houser said the solution is to issue up to five permits to dispose of sewage in ground water on an experimental basis. If they are operating satisfactorily in five years, the regulations will be changed to confirm with the regulations in the rest of the eastern shore. The Health Dept. is going to meet with the present owners of the subdivision and ask them to accept this decision. If they do not, the matter will go to the courts with the State Health Dept.

Board of Education

Mr. R. E. King, Mr. Canoweicz, Mr. H. Graves, Mr. H. Ocker, Mr. K. Abell, Delegates Fowler and Briscoe, Mr. Guyther, Mr. W. S. Donaldson. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss the immediate needs of the school program in the county. General discussion concerning vocational school. Local subdivision will have to put up at least 25% of the cost. Mr. King said they are leaning heavily on the possibility of providing facilities at Chapticon and Great Mills rather than building a separate facility, as this would eliminate the need to build cafeterias, kitchens, etc., as same are already in the above mentioned schools. There are 33 rooms at Chapticon and 12 more will be added. When the vocational schools are started, if the students from Calvert County are able to come over, our county will receive additional funds for this program. They hope to get the vocational program ready by September of 1966.

General opinion that the immediate needs are the vocational school, the addition to the Esperanza School, and a new elementary school in the north end of the county. Discussion regarding possibility of having schools built that will not be used and how to avoid this pitfall; St. Peter Clavier School is being closed as the building is in bad condition. Mr. Ocker said there is a prediction that our school population will increase 80% in the next ten years, so there isn't much possibility of any school not being used.

Mr. Ocker stated that they had gotten federal funds that were not being used by other counties, as said counties did not want to make the effort to get the funds. He stated that the Head Start Program is primarily to get the children young enough to instill in them a desire to make something of themselves and not expect to live off welfare payments. The vocational school programs will be aimed at the school dropouts who would be willing to come back and learn a trade in order to make a living.

Immediate needs determined as follows: 1) Esperanza addition - this would be an addition to the present school. Total additional funds for this will be \$347,000. It is hoped to have the addition ready by September 1966. 2) New elementary school in the north end of the county - must relieve Mechanicsville and White Marsh. There is no building there that can be added to. This school would also serve the Amish community. Funds needed - \$259,000. 3) Vocational School or facilities - when the Board of Education receives more information as to how the formula is going to be worked, they will furnish the commissioners with same. Cost - \$500,000. Total amount to be paid by the county would be \$1,106,000. Mr. King said that the State Loan Pool will be available in August and asked the commissioners to consider this.

Concerning the Head Start Program for pre-school age children of lower income families, Mr. King said there will probably not be a need for any money for this, but will need moral support of the commissioners. He requested that the commissioners speak well of the program and urge people to take advantage of it.

EDC Brochure

Mr. W. Chapman, Chairman of the EDC, said that this group wants to publish a booklet on St. Mary's County with no advertising in it. There is enough money to do this in the budget. Also, requested \$8,000 to participate in the tri-county program, and this money will not be released until they get a letter from the respective counties stating that they will contribute their share. Headquarters must be set up for the three counties and they have agreed to hire a Mr. Anders as director, who is highly recommended by the State EDC.

The commissioners agreed to pay twenty-five percent of the \$3500 that will be needed to publish the brochures as requested by Mr. Chapman.

Substitute Telephone Operator

Mr. Donaldson suggested hiring someone to work in this capacity. Since Mrs. Buckler has been hired as fulltime operator, there is no one to substitute for her. Mrs. Kay D'Espisito has been filling in during the lunch hour, but when the merit system goes into effect, she can no longer do this. Mr. Donaldson asked that the commissioners consider this.

Mosquito Control Employees

The commissioners reviewed letter presented by Mr. Ben Smith recommending certain boys for this work, and approved same.

Radios

Mr. Paul Raley asked about car radios for Mr. Norris, state's attorney, and Mr. Cryer, county inspector. The commissioners agreed that these radios should be purchased.

Nursing Home Beds

Mr. Burch signed the order for all electric beds to be ordered from the Hill-Rom Company.

Parking Lot

Mr. Burch signed request for Payment #1 in the amount of \$3,344.50.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved,

F. Elliott Burch

F. Elliott Burch, President