

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

October 8-9, 1975

Wednesday, October 8, 1975

Present: Commissioner James M. McKay, President
Commissioner Ford L. Dean
Commissioner J. Patrick Jarboe
Commissioner Larry Millison
Commissioner John K. Parlett
Edward V. Cox, Chief Clerk
Judith A. Mullins, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 1-2, 1975 were read and corrected. Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

ENCUMBRANCE VOUCHERS

Present: Harris Sterling, Director of Finance

Mr. Sterling presented Encumbrance Vouchers for the Commissioners' review and approval. Commissioner Millison made a motion to approve the submitted Encumbrance Vouchers, as submitted, with the exception of Vouchers Nos. 4733 and 4734, held for further clarification. Commissioner Jarboe seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted in favor.

MARYLAND OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT

Mr. Cox advised that correspondence dated September 15, 1975 was received from the Department of Inspection and Regulation stating that on or before October 15, 1975 we should respond to them as to whether we have the capabilities to conduct and maintain a program of self-inspection, including an estimate of the number of full-time and part-time inspectors the County could commit to the Program. The letter indicated that if no response is forthcoming by October 15, the Division of Labor and Industry will conduct these inspections. Mr. Cox is to respond to the Division of Labor that the County would be interested in having their agency conduct inspections for us.

REGIONAL PRE-TRIAL FACILITY - HUGHESVILLE

With response to the Agreement for the Regional Pre-Trial Facility at Hughesville, Sheriff Sanger, by letter dated October 7, 1975, suggested that the Pre-Trial Facility furnish transportation to and from the St. Mary's County Jail.

Mr. Cox advised that Charles and Calvert Counties have already responded in the affirmative to the Agreement to the State.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion that the Commissioners respond in the affirmative on the Agreement for the construction of the Pre-Trial Facility, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

The Commissioners will discuss the transportation issue at a later date.

CITIZENS FOR PROGRESS

Mr. Cox stated that correspondence was received from Citizens for Progress stating that having an audit done on their books would place an impossible financial demand on their organization, and requested financial assistance in order to comply with the Commissioners' request. Mr. Cox stated that the cost would probably not exceed \$300.

Commissioner Dean made a motion that a letter be written to Citizens for Progress stating that Mr. O'Dell, Budget Officer, would do an overview of their books to determine their basic financial condition prior to a decision to having an audit conducted, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

OUTDOOR DRAMA

Present: Joseph O'Dell, Budget Officer

Mr. Cox stated that Mr. Ed Atkins of the Outdoor Drama requested the Commissioners' consideration for rental for the trailer used by the Outdoor Drama Association, which, up until now had been rent free. The rent would be \$200 per month, plus \$50 per month for utilities. Mr. O'Dell advised that Mr. Atkins is negotiating for a six-month lease and is requesting an approval by the Commissioners on the lease.

On Thursday, Mr. Cox reported that Mr. Atkins called to state that there were some other alternatives for space under consideration and that a decision by the Commissioners on the above is premature at this time.

MANAGEMENT LETTER FROM AUDITORS

Present: Mr. O'Dell, Budget Officer

Mr. Cox presented memoranda which is to be forwarded to Harris Sterling, Finance Director; Paul Raley, Administrative & Logistic Services; Joseph O'Dell, Budget Officer; and the County Treasurer enclosing duplicate copies of the auditor's management letter concerning the 1974-75 audit regarding correcting certain deficiencies in these various offices and requesting recommendations and approximate time these deficiencies would be corrected.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion that these memoranda be forwarded over the President of the Board of Commissioners' signature to the departments involved and that these departments respond in writing by October 29th, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

COMMISSION ON AGING - REQUEST FOR TYPEWRITER

Mr. Cox stated that Mr. Paul Raley, Director, Administrative and Logistic Services, approved the purchase of a typewriter for the Commission on Aging Office. Approval has also been given by the Budget Officer. Funds are to be transferred from Account No. 36-39721 (Equipment Account) to an Equipment Account to be established in the Commission on Aging Budget. The exact amount of the transfer will be established at the time of the transfer.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to authorize the above transfer, seconded by Commissioner Parlett. All Commissioner voted in favor.

ELMS PROPERTY - TIMBER MARKING REPORT

Mr. Cox presented the Timber Marking Report and specifications prepared by Maryland Forest Service for Energy and Coastal Zone Management Administration for ten acres at the Elms Property site for the Commissioners' review and approval. After review, Commissioner Dean made a motion to advise the Elms Property Committee that the Commissioners pose no objections to the above, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe. All Commissioners voted in favor.

ELMS PROPERTY - PRIVATE HUNTING/SHOOTING AREA

Mr. Cox presented the specifications and terms for leasing of the Elms Property for use as a private hunting/shooting area.

Mr. Cox suggested that a cancellation clause be included in the specifications. The Agreement will be between the Power Plant Siting Program and the lessee. Mr. Cox is to advise the Elms Property Committee that the Commissioners agree to these specifications.

STEUART PETROLEUM STORAGE TANKS

Walter Raum forwarded a letter stating that the Environmental Study Committee discussed the subject of an environmental impact statement for the storage tanks at the Steuart Petroleum Company and stating that the St. Mary's County Commissioners can require an Environmental Statement if they so desire.

In view of this letter from the Environmental Committee, Mr. Platt should be forwarded a copy of this letter and be requested to advise the Commissioners what in the way of an environmental impact statement his office is requiring of the Steuart Petroleum Company with regard to the proposed storage tanks.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE GROUP

Mr. Cox brought to the Commissioners' attention that the deadline for filing an application for the Title I project of the Housing Act as presented by Mr. Radigan at the Commissioners' meeting of September 3, 1975 is Dec. 15th, 1975.

Mr. Cox was directed to send the information concerning this to Tri-County Council for their review and request the TCC to determine whether or not the same services could be provided by their staff.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Mr. Cox presented the proposed contract between the St. Clements Island - Potomac River Museum and the State of Maryland to conduct an archaeological survey of St. Mary's County for the Commissioners' review. The project is on a 50-50 matching basis with the State providing \$3,500 in contract services to the archaeologist. The County's share was based upon the funds already budgeted for the Potomac River Museum.

It was Michael Humphries, County Archaeologist's recommendation that the Commissioners approve and sign this Contract.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to approve and sign this Contract, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

ASSESSMENT OFFICE LEASE

Mr. Cox presented the lease for the rental of office space by the Supervisor of Assessment Office in the Courthouse. Total annual fee is \$4,824 (1,072 square feet @ \$4.50 per square foot).

Mr. Cox also explained the need by the Assessment Office for additional office space, and they are requesting usage of the passageway to the State's Attorney's Office and the storage space in the rear of the Assessment Office.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion that the Commissioners sign the lease with the Assessment Department and approve the request for additional space (at 75% of the normal leasing charge) subject to an agreement being drawn, seconded by Commissioner Parlett. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

HOUSE BILL No. 616 - STATE COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL GROWTH POOL

Mr. Cox presented correspondence from Prince George's County pertaining to House Bill No. 616, which is being reconsidered for the 1976 Legislative Session, and requesting the Counties of Maryland to provide them with projections as to population, number of residences, property tax rate, etc. The Commissioners requested Mr. Cox to obtain additional information and further clarification.

SIGNING OF CHELTENHAM AGREEMENT

Present: Sharon Camp, Mental Health Advisory Committee
Richard Dunn, Prince George's County Task Force

The above persons presented the Agreement for the Cheltenham Program for the Commissioners' signature. The Commissioners agreed to sign same.

YOUTH DAY

Present: Bob Wentworth, Executive Secretary, Youth Commission
Nick Smith, Chamber of Commerce
Rube Beamman, Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Wentworth advised the Commissioners that Youth Day will be Friday, November 14. This day is set aside to acknowledge the youth in the County and their productive accomplishments and achievements.

Each of the five high schools in the area elect students to nine honorary positions in the County, including County Commissioner. These youths have the opportunity to spend a day in a business or profession that they may be interested in. The Chamber of Commerce is assisting by contacting their members requesting their participation.

The Commissioners will have a Proclamation drawn up proclaiming Youth Day and indicating the Commissioners' desire to participate.

COUNTY EQUIPMENT

Present: Herschel McLeod)
Ben Burroughs)
Oliver Guyther) representing trash collectors
Curtis Family)
John Norris, County Engineer

The above persons involved in trash collection came before the Commissioners to inquire if the County was going into the trash collection business because of the County's recent advertisement for the purchase of a transfer trailer for the Valley Lee site.

Mr. Norris explained the provisions of the Solid Waste Plan and the background behind establishing the transfer stations in the County and emphasized it was not the County's intent to get into door-to-door collection. It would not be their intent because it was more economical for the County to provide transfer stations and to haul material collected at these stations to a County landfill.

With reference to another matter, Mr. Norris indicated that he was having a problem with trash being brought into the County landfills from Charles County, which is in conflict with our Ordinance. Mr. Norris stated he had made a telephone survey of individuals whose names appeared on trash collected at the St. Andrews Landfill. These individuals indicated to Mr. Norris that their hauler was Waldorf Sanitary Company.

In closing, Mr. Burroughs requested to be notified when the bids for the trailer would be discussed. Mr. Norris said he would be bringing this item before the Commissioners this afternoon.

REZONING HEARING - HARRY W. BARRETT - CASE No. 75-10

Present: Mr. Harry Barrett, Applicant for Rezoning

Application was made by Harry W. Barrett to have a parcel of land containing approximately 1.6 acres, located approximately 1,000 feet from the intersection of Route 246 and Chancellors Run Road, Eighth Election District, rezoned from GA (Garden Apartments) to C-2 (Highway Commercial).

Mr. Cox, Chief Clerk, read the Notice of Public Hearing.

After Mr. Barrett gave his presentation explaining his reasons for the request for rezoning, Commissioner McKay inquired if anyone present wished to speak for or against this rezoning. There were none.

At this time the Secretary read the Planning Commission's recommendation, which stated that they feel rezoning is justified since subject property, because of its limited size (1.6 acres), cannot meet the minimum five acre requirement of the GA category as it is currently zoned; and commercial zoning would be compatible with the area and the Comprehensive Plan.

The Commissioners advised that they would make a decision in approximately two weeks.

At this time the case was closed. A tape of the hearing is on file in the Commissioners' Office.

WILDEWOODE SUBDIVISION - REQUEST FOR VARIATION ON ROAD PROFILES

Present: Joe Waldschmidt)
Eddie Whittengill) principals of Paragon Builders, for
Pete Breck) Wildewood Subdivision

Larry Day, Engineer for Wildewood Subdivision
John Norris, County Engineer

Mr. Waldschmidt informed the Commissioners of the status of Wildewood Subdivision, consisting of 114 lots, off of St. Andrews Church Road, in that it has been before the Planning Commission and they are seeking record plat and final approval. He mentioned the problems encountered with roads in this particular subdivision and stated they are requesting a variation on some of the specifications of the current subdivision regulations with regard to width of the roads. Mr. Waldschmidt requested that in order to retain the character of the subdivision that the developers of this project be allowed this variation, which would be in agreement with the proposed update of the Subdivision Regulations presently in draft. He stated that the County Engineer endorses this plan.

The Commissioners agreed to obtain a legal determination from the County Attorney as to the means of amending the current subdivision regulations to incorporate new road profiles and whether a public hearing should be held.

PROJECT No. 76-1-3
RESURFACING OF COUNTY COURTHOUSE PARKING LOT

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

Mr. Norris stated that proposals were received from two contractors for the resurfacing of the County Courthouse parking lot. Bid specifications called for a choice of two options: Option No. 1 - weekdays, weekends, or holidays; and Option No. 2 - weekends or holidays. Proposals were as follows:

Tuxedo Contractors	-	Option No. 2	\$10,640
Dean Construction	-	Option 1 or 2	\$16,907

Mr. Norris recommended awarding the bid to Tuxedo Contractors, the lowest bidder, for Option No. 2, in the amount of \$10,640.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to accept Mr. Norris' recommendation to award the bid to Tuxedo Contractors, and, in addition, if Mr. Norris is able to obtain a price of \$18 per ton (staying within the budget) from the same contractor for the resurfacing of Courthouse Drive, that he be authorized to proceed to have it done, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

Mr. Norris stated that the Building Committee for the Bicentennial Commission Tourist Information Center conducted interviews and received proposals from architectural and engineering firms as follows:

Wilson T. Ballard	\$7,600
Smeallie, Orrick & Janka	\$3,600
Lorenzi, Dodds and Gunnill	\$9,850
Greenhorne & O'Mara	\$8,000 (plus survey costs)
Dewberry, Nealon & David	\$5,500

There was discussion that the budgeted amount of \$55,000 for the construction of the Information Center would not be sufficient to construct this facility and discussion of the acquisition of the land from the State.

Mr. Norris stated that the Chairman of the Building Committee recommended awarding the bid to Smeallie, Orrick and Janka, the lowest bidder, in the amount of \$3,600, and that it was also his recommendation.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to authorize Mr. Norris to proceed to finalize the contract with Smeallie, Orrick and Janka, which will be in two phases - preliminary work with cost estimates, and design drawings, and also to proceed with the procurement of the property from SHA, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

SOLID WASTE TRANSFER TRAILER

Present: John Norris, County Engineer

Mr. Norris stated that the County received bids for the Solid Waste Trailer and presented the bid sheet to the Commissioners on same. There was discussion as to the pros and cons of the various makes and models of the trailer and it was decided that Mr. Norris would negotiate (without committing the County) with the various bidders to obtain the best price based on the storage capacity of the trailer and return to the Commissioners with a recommendation.

REQUEST OF COPY OF COUNTY 1975 AUDIT

Present: J. Wilmer Bowles

Mr. Bowles appeared before the Commissioners to request to purchase the complete 1975 County Audit, in that part of the audit pertains to his administration as County Commissioner. He stated that Mr. O'Dell, Budget Officer, provided him with the condensed Audit but he was advised by Mr. O'Dell that he would have to request the complete Audit from the Commissioners.

Commissioner McKay provided Mr. Bowles with his copy of the Audit as a courtesy copy and it was agreed by all Commissioners that if the other two former Commissioners requested a copy a courtesy copy would be given them.

In closing, Mr. Bowles stated he would like to mention as a point of information and for the record that, while meeting with Mr. O'Dell, Mr. O'Dell told him that the previous Commissioners had not made available a copy of the County Audit to the news media. Mr. Bowles said that this was not true and referred to a letter dated December 6, 1974 from Mr. John Little, of David Gruber & Company (the County auditors at that time) which provided copies of the Audit for the period ending June 30, 1974 to all news media.

Mr. O'Dell stated that this was evidently just a communication problem and that he had been informed differently.

(At this time the secretary left the meeting and Mr. Cox took notes for the remainder of the day.)

INTERVIEW FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR POSITION

At this time the Commissioners conducted interviews with three applicants for the position of Economic Development Coordinator.

LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE REVIEW

At this time the Commissioners reviewed the Preliminary Legislative Package in order to make decisions to include or exclude certain items from the Package.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DECISION</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
I	Alcoholic Beverage Board appointment by County Commissioners	Delete	4 to 1 (Millison against)
II	Board of Education to be elected	Delete	3 to 2 (Millison and McKay against)
III	Education Transportation Board	Delete	3 to 2 (Millison and Jarboe against)
IV	Reimbursement for District Court Costs	Leave in	Unanimous
V	No Loitering Law	Leave in	4 to 0 (McKay abstained)
VI	Detention and Placement in Shelter Care	Leave in	Unanimous
VII	Department of Public Works	Delete	4 to 1 (McKay against)
VIII	Park Land Dedication	Leave in	Unanimous
IX	Bicentennial Commission	Leave in	Unanimous
X	Power Plant Siting	Delete	Unanimous
XI	St. Mary's County Fire Board (loan guarantee)	Delete	Unanimous
XII	Human Relations Commission membership change	Leave in	Unanimous
XIII	Sheriff's Department Merit System	Leave in	Unanimous
XIV	Pawnshops Reporting System	Delete	Unanimous
XV	Mobile Home Sales Permit Notification	Delete	Unanimous
XVI	Roads and Bridges Benefit Charge	Leave in	Unanimous

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DECISION</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
XVII	Appropriation Authority of County Commissioners (1. Subject to Budget process) (2. Non-profit)	Leave in (with amend- ments)	Unanimous

XVIII	Economic Development Commission	Leave in	Unanimous
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(Additional items were considered by the Commissioners on Thursday, October 9th.)

VAN FOR MAINTENANCE CREW

Commissioner Parlett advised the Commissioners that he and "Skip" Jones went to Penn Motors in Baltimore and purchased a 1972 GMC Van at a cost of \$2,950 for use by the County Maintenance Crew.

BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING

Commissioner Parlett advised the Commissioners that he has scheduled the first meeting of the Building Committee for Friday, October 10th at 7:30 pm.

The meeting recessed at 6:15 pm.

Thursday, October 9, 1975

Present: Commissioner James M. McKay, President
Commissioner Ford L. Dean
Commissioner J. Patrick Jarboe
Commissioner Larry Millison
Commissioner John K. Parlett
Edward V. Cox, Chief Clerk
Judith A. Mullins, Recording Secretary

The meeting reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE REVIEW

Present: Will Foreman, College Intern

At this time the Commissioners reviewed the newly submitted items for the Legislative Package.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DECISION</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
XIX	Bingo Bill	Put in Package	Unanimous
XX	Openness in Meetings	Put in Package	Unanimous
XXI	Establishment of a Commission on Status of Women	Put in Package	Unanimous
XXII	Student of Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College	Put in Package	Unanimous

EXECUTIVE SESSION - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

At this time the Commissioners agreed to meet in Executive Session on October 14 at 7:00 pm to discuss appointments to various Boards and Commissions.

COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND SEWER PLAN

Commissioner Parlett stated that he would recommend to Mr. Platt, Director, Land Use & Development, that he meet with Mr. Beavin, Walter Raum of the Health Department, and Mike Marlay of the Metropolitan Commission to discuss the Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan update and the concerns expressed by Mr. Beavin as stated in last week's meeting and return to the Commissioners with recommendations. The above-mentioned people should obtain input from Mr. Beavin as to estimated figures to do the update and a time frame.

MARGARET BRENT SCHOOL

Present: John Baggett, Director, Recreation and Parks

With regard to the demolition of the Margaret Brent School, Mr. Baggett stated that a need has been demonstrated for a community center to be located in the gymnasium of the school for roller skating, drop-in teen center, etc. Mr. Baggett explained the modifications and renovations needed to make the gym suitable. Commissioner McKay stated there should be a temporary plan to seal off this portion of the building when the school is demolished.

The Commissioners requested Mr. Baggett to develop a list of potential uses to demonstrate the need for a community center and to respond to the Board of Education of the County's intent to leave the gym portion of the school standing and also request that we be notified when demolition commences. The Commissioners also directed that the County maintenance crew be alerted on this matter.

ENCUMBRANCE VOUCHERS - PAYROLL ACCOUNT

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to approve Encumbrance Vouchers No. 5114, payable to Treasurer for Payroll Account for period ending Oct. 3, 1975 and No. 5115 payable to First National Bank for Federal withholding for payroll period ending October 3, 1975, and further moved to approve Voucher No. 4903 payable to Richard Platt for expenses, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

CHANGE IN MEETING DAY FOR YOUTH DAY

Relative to the presentation at yesterday's meeting concerning Youth Day on Friday, November 14, Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to change the scheduled Thursday, November 13 meeting to Friday, November 14, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor.

BUDGET PROCESS

Present: Joseph P. O'Dell, Budget Officer

Mr. O'Dell stated that he recommended to the Commissioners that prior to the annual departmental hearings with department heads relative to their

budgets that the Commissioners meet at various locations in the County in order to get input and comments on the budget from the public and also their comments on the use of Revenue Sharing funds. This input should be directed to the department heads for consideration in their budgets. Mr. O'Dell recommended that this be done in December or January.

Commissioner McKay suggested that the public be made aware when the department heads would be discussing their budget with the Commissioners and Mr. O'Dell agreed.

The Commissioners agreed to conduct two meetings in January (January 5th and 12th) - one at Chopticon and the other at Great Mills.

In addition the Commissioners agreed that the FY 77 Budget Hearings be held in two locations - Lexington Park and Leonardtown.

REIMBURSEMENT CHECKS FROM STATE AGENCIES

Present: Joseph O'Dell, Budget Officer

Mr. O'Dell stated he forwarded a letter changing the process whereby various departments received reimbursement checks from State agencies. This letter made the following recommendations:

- (1) All requests by departments to State and Federal agencies should first clear the Finance Office;
- (2) All reimbursement checks should be sent directly to the Treasurer's Office, who would then, in turn, contact the Director of Finance to correlate the charge to the proper account.
- (3) Appropriate departments will receive copies of correspondence and check receipt data transmitted to the Treasurer's Office.

The Commissioners gave their concurrence to this procedure.

FIRE BOARD

Present: Joseph O'Dell, Budget Officer

Commissioner Parlett stated he received a call from George McWilliams with reference to the Fire Board which is requesting that all fire departments be given their funding at this time. Mr. O'Dell explained that the letter approved by the Commissioners concerning release of funding for fire departments evidently crossed in the Mail with the Fire Board's request. Mr. McKay will forward a letter to the fire companies re-stating the Commissioners' position.

SCHOOL FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

Commissioner Dean stated that letters have been received from Land Use Office and Health Department pertaining to the School Facilities Master Plan and suggested that these letters be forwarded to the Board of Education. The Commissioners agreed to forward correspondence to the Board of Education.

BOARD OF APPEALS

Present: Joseph Ernest Bell, II, County Attorney

The Commissioners discussed the increased membership of the Board of Appeals and the method of payment. The Commissioners requested Mr. Bell to meet with the new members to explain their duties and obligations and that the Chairman of the Board of Appeals be advised not to call a meeting of the full Board until after this orientation meeting. Also discussed was whether the new members could participate in the decision of pending items, scheduled for October 23 (sand and gravel project at Abell's Wharf and Conditional Use of Tourist Information Center). The County Attorney was of the opinion that they could not. Mr. Bell stated he would schedule this meeting one and a half hours prior to the Board of Appeals' regular meeting on October 16.

With regard to payment to members of the Board of Appeals, Commissioner Dean made a motion that we revise the method of payment to the members of the Board of Appeals, that effective November 1, 1975, each of the five regular members of the Board of Appeals and the Attorney to the Board receive an annual reimbursement of \$900 and further moved that the alternate member be paid \$50 for each meeting which he attends. The only legitimate reason for attending being the one orientation session and sitting in in the absence of a regular member or any special meeting in which his attendance may be required, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Mr. Cox was requested to review the minutes by the former Board of Commissioners regarding payment to the Board of Appeals to determine if the present Commissioners have proceeded correctly.

Commissioner Jarboe made a motion to rescind the former Commissioners' action setting the Board of Appeals pay at \$50 per meeting and that said rescission be effective November 1, 1975, seconded by Commissioner Parlett. All Commissioners voted in favor.

BIDS ON INVESTMENTS

Present: Harris Sterling, Director of Finance

Bids were opened this date for investments as follows:

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>MD. NAT'L</u>	<u>FIRST NAT'L</u>	<u>MD. BANK & TRUST</u>
500,000	60 days	6.415%	6.385%	6.05%
1,760,000	95 days	6.155%	6.485%	6.0%
265,000	124 days	6.35%	6.585%	6.15%

Mr. Sterling recommended awarding the bids as follows:

- \$500,000 for 60 days to Maryland National Bank;
- \$1,760,000 for 95 days to First National Bank;
- \$265,000 for 124 days to First National Bank.

Commissioner Dean made a motion to accept Mr. Sterling's recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Dean. All Commissioners voted in favor.

AUTOGRAPHING OF BOOK - ST. MARY'S COUNTY IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Present: Edwin Beitzell

Mr. Beitzell appeared before the Commissioners to autograph the book presented to each of the Commissioners by Marvin Joy and authored by Mr. Beitzell.

TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Present: Frank Sakran, member of Taxpayers Association
Mr. Baker " " " "
Mike Marlay, Metropolitan Commission
Lewis Merchant, " "
Donald Curtis, Housing Coordinator

ST. MARY'S GARDEN APARTMENTS' WATER BILL - Mr. Sakran and Mr. Baker appeared before the Commissioners at the request of the Taxpayers Association to clarify the Commissioners' position with regard to the water bill at St. Mary's Garden Apartments. Commissioner McKay explained that in view of the health situation that may have developed had the water been turned off, the Metropolitan Commission and Mr. Raum of the Health Department came to the Commissioners to discuss the situation and requested \$7,000 to provide water and sewage services to the housing project. However, as it developed, it became unnecessary to provide those funds as the Metropolitan Commission and the lessee of the project had reached an agreement. However, the Board has taken a position that they do not want to be confronted with this situation again, and therefore indicated to the Budget Officer that the County would make available on an "as needed" basis in an emergency situation funds up to \$10,000 for health services.

Commissioner Parlett explained the history of the situation and the agreement with the Metropolitan Commission and Mr. Cesstone of Verona Housing, Inc., the lessee of St. Mary's Garden Apartments, and that if Mr. Cesstone did not make payments in accordance with the agreement and the water was going to be turned off, it would then be up to the County to take care of the emergency needs of the residents.

In closing, Mr. Merchant advised that the Metropolitan Commission is presently re-negotiating the original agreement and that Mr. Cesstone has paid up to date all bills as agreed.

ST. MARY'S HOUSING AUTHORITY PROJECT - Mr. Sakran inquired of the Commissioners as to the County's payment of maintenance bills for the housing project. Commissioner Jarboe explained that utility rates have climbed and consequently we have had to use funds previously budgeted for administration and maintenance to pay these utilities and, further, that the Housing Authority is presently negotiating with HUD to establish subsidy funds to help the financial problems so that the Housing Authority would not have to come to the County for funding.

In response to Mr. Sakran's inquiry as to the raising of rents, Mr. Curtis explained that the rental limit is set up by Congress.

Commissioner Jarboe recommended that the Taxpayers Association look at the different approaches to the situation and offer any suggestions.

ST. CLEMENTS ISLAND - POTOMAC RIVER MUSEUM

Commissioner Dean made a motion to support the concept of keeping the St. Clements Island - Potomac River Museum open three days a week and have Mr. O'Dell work out details for providing the necessary budgeted funds, and that these funds be taken from the Contingency Fund, if necessary. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parlett. All Commissioners voted in favor of this motion.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Approved:


JAMES M. MCKAY, President