

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, April 29, 2025)

Generated by Julie Burch on Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr.
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Amy Carter, Videographer, County Public Information Office

Captain Douglas Burfield, Installation Commanding Officer
Hannah Pajewski, Community Planning Liaison Officer
Steve Cricchi, Executive Director, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division
Ashley Raley, Environmental Scientist, NAWCAD Sustainability Office
Lance McDaniel, Installation Environmental Director, NAVFAC
Kevin Cahill, Regional Air Operations Programs Specialist
Holly Drury, Environmental Scientist, NAWCAD Sustainability Office

Speakers

Jackie Smith, NAVFAC
Allison Burnett, RC & D
Jessica Andritz, Director, Dept. of Land Use and Growth Management
James Gotsch, Director, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation

1. JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY AND THE COMMANDING OFFICERS, NAS PATUXENT RIVER - Encroachment Mitigation and Prevention Meeting, Frank Knox Bldg. 2189 (just past Gate 2 entrance), Lexington Park, MD

The Commissioners met with the Commanding Officer and Representatives of NAS Patuxent River at 9:00 a.m. in the Frank Knox Career Development Center, NAS Patuxent River for the Semi-Annual Encroachment Mitigation and Prevention Joint Meeting. Commissioner President Guy and Commanding Officer Captain Douglas Burfield provided opening remarks.

Presentations were given for the following: Encroachment Agreement; Hogpoint Shoreline Restoration Project on NAS Pax; Impact of Federal Reductions on NAS Pax; Return to Work Impact Mitigation: Traffic and Gate Operations; Defense Communities Infrastructure Sidewalk Project Completion; St. Mary's County Comprehensive Plan Update.

Following closing remarks by Commissioner President Guy and Commanding Officer Captain Douglas Burfield, the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

2. ADJOURN - RETURN TO THE CHESAPEAKE BUILDING

3. WELCOME

Members present

Commissioner President James R. Guy
Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt
Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr.
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
Jenna Guzman, Communications Director, Public Information Office
Julie Burch, Recorder

Commissioner President Guy called the meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at 11:00 a.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Approval of Consent Agenda

I move to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Minutes of April 22, 2025.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr., second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

4. PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations were presented for:

- A. Law Day
- B. Hurricane Preparedness Week
- C. Maryland Flood Awareness Month
- D. Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A. DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT - Public Hearing - ZONE24-0040 20698 Goddard Rd.

Commissioner President Guy opened the public hearing at 11:30 a.m.

Present: Courtney Jenkins, Deputy Director

Notice of the Public Hearing was published on April 11 and April 18, 2025, in the Southern Maryland News. This public hearing was to receive public comment on a proposed change to the land use designation to Mixed-Use Medium-Intensity and the zoning designation to Medium-Intensity Mixed-Use (MXM). This piecemeal zoning change requires an amendment to the County's Land Use Concept Plan adopted as part of the 2010 Comprehensive Plan. The property is located at 20698 Goddard Road in Great Mills, Maryland.

Commissioner President Guy requested that David Weiskopf provide the format for the public hearing and open it to public comment.

Public Comments given by:

Chris Longmore, 22738 Maple Road #101, Lexington Park, MD

Jesse Grumbles, 20583 Goddard Road

Mr. Weiskopf closed the public hearing for public comment and noted that the record would remain open for public comment for an additional seven days. Commissioner President Guy closed the public hearing at approximately 11:54 a.m.

6. STATE OF THE COLLEGE

A. ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND

Present: Dr. Tuajuanda C. Jordon, President of St. Mary's College of Maryland
Brandon Engle, Director of Government Affairs

An overview of St. Mary's College was presented. She discussed enrollment, tuition, curriculum, and the economic impact the college has on the region.

7. MAIN AGENDA

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY -Request for Public Hearing - Real Property - Road Transfers with the State Department of Natural Resources

I move to approve a morning public hearing on June 3rd at a time to be determined, for the purpose of receiving public comment on two (2) partial road transfers with the Department of Natural Resources, for a portion of Camp Cosoma Road and a portion of Newtowne Neck Road.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

8. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR MAY 6 AND 13, 2025.

**B. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - No Parking
Resolution on Willows Road at Lancaster Park**

I move to adopt a No Parking Resolution on Willows Road at Lancaster Park (County Road ID #30334).

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

9. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events over the past week and provided general comments.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

I move to enter into closed session to discuss Real Property and Legal Advice.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr., second by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

10. CLOSED SESSION

A. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, Commissioner President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Jennifer Utz, Director, Department of Emergency Services
Vanetta Van Cleave, Chief Financial Officer
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(12) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
Time Held: 1:07 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Purpose: to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice

B. REAL PROPERTY

Present: James R. Guy, Commissioner President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(6) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 1:15 p.m. - 1:23 p.m.

Purpose: to hold preliminary discussions concerning the purchase or disposition of real property

C. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, Commissioner President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
John Houser, Deputy County Attorney
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

Authority: §9-512(a)(12) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland

Time Held: 1:24 p.m. - 1:57 p.m.

Purpose: to provide legal advice.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on May 6, 2025.

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

12. PUBLIC HEARING

A. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES - PUBLIC HEARING - Animal Ordinance Revision

Commissioner President Guy opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Present: Jennifer Utz, Director

Notice of the Public Hearing was published on April 11 and April 18, 2025, in the Southern Maryland News. This public hearing was to receive public comments to amend the Animal Control Ordinance.

Commissioner President Guy requested that David Weiskopf provide the format for the public hearing and open it to public comment.

No public comments given.

Mr. Weiskopf closed the public hearing for public comment and noted that the record would remain open for public comment for an additional seven days. Commissioner President Guy closed the public hearing at approximately 6:38 p.m.

B. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - PUBLIC HEARING - To Repeal and Replace Ordinance 2017-30 To Designate on which County Roads Golf Carts May Legally be Driven

Commissioner President Guy opened the public hearing at 6:38 p.m.

Present: Buffy Giddens, County Attorney

Notice of the Public Hearing was published on April 11 and April 18, 2025, in the Southern Maryland News. This public hearing was to receive public comments on the Ordinance to repeal and replace Ordinance 2017-30 to designate certain county highways on which golf carts may be lawfully operated.

Commissioner President Guy requested that David Weiskopf provide the format for the public hearing and open it to public comment.

Public Comments given by:

Jeff Buckler, Mechanicsville, MD

Troy Evans, Mechanicsville, MD

Karen Buckler, Mechanicsville, MD

Bert Gagnon, Mechanicsville, MD

Mr. Weiskopf closed the public hearing for public comment and noted that the record would remain open for public comment for an additional seven days. Commissioner President Guy closed the public hearing at approximately 7:00 p.m.