

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, February 3, 2026)
Generated by Julie Burch on Tuesday, February 3, 2026

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

Prior to the business meeting, a reception for the St. Mary's County Boards, Commissions, and Committees was held in the lobby of the Chesapeake Building.

Commissioner President Guy called the business meeting of the Commissioners of St. Mary's County to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Chesapeake Building Meeting Room, Governmental Center.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

I move to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Minutes of January 27, 2026.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

3. PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations were presented for:

- A. Black History Month
- B. National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month
- C. Transit Equity Day
- D. National Library Lovers Month

4. COMMENDATION

A commendation was presented to Catherine Pratson in recognition of her retirement.

5. PRESENTATION

A. Boards, Committees & Commissions Recognition Ceremony

The following individuals were recognized for their participation on Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Administrative Charging Committee

Nickolas Cromwell, Michael Deitch, Joyce Dyson, Dr. Linda Lymas, Peter Wild

Adult Public Guardianship Review Board

Dr. Joseph DeVitis, Robin Johnson, Rose Miller, Kathleen Werner

Agriculture, Seafood and Forestry Board

Scott Bacon, Bonnie Browne, Justin Cheseldine-Gass, Kaitlin Fraer, Connie Gunn, Donald Larocco, III, Phil Langley, James Moore, James B. Norris, Jr., Jeffrey Pharis, Richard Polk, Stephen Reeves, Michael Sirk, Joseph Wood

Airport Advisory Board

Matthew DiMarco, Christopher Fuller, George Hill, Adam Osborne, Charles Stickney, Paul Teas

Animal Control Advisory Board

Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Dr. Rebecca Ironmonger, Doug Isleib, Mackenzie Jones, Susan Morris, Steven Tuttle

Board of Appeals

John Brown, George Allan Hayden, Donald Larocco, II, Ronald Payne, Sr., Dr. Michael Valcke, Rita Weaver

Board of Trustees Museum Division

Kathy Bailey, Michael Blackwell, Dr. Catherine Bowes, Michael Brown, Daniel Kerns, Valmora Lewis, Michelle Reloba, Caitlyn Socrates, Conner Wolfe

Building Code Board of Appeals

Donald Haskin, Wayne Hunt, Michael Mummaugh, Stephen Wilson, Brian Yount

Commission for People with Disabilities

John Eid, Jaclyn Hall, Philip Horne, Robin Johnson, Shalonda Nelson, Jessica Richards, Jennifer Rudolph, James Sidler, Kegan Zimmerman

Commission for Women

Kimberly Bannister, Kim Belvin, Elizabeth Mildenstein, Melissa Rodriguez, Taylor Spencer-Davis, Tracey Shivers, Emily Stagner, Catherine Stewart

Commission on Aging

Rowena Bossio, Triverr Gray, Dawnn Hahn, Kimberly Hansing, Aurora Hidalgo, Kei Jenkins, Christine Morgan, Shalonda Nelson, Omonigho Olumese, Barbara O'Neal

Commission on the Environment

Nicole Bega, Molly Boron, Robert Hurry, Jennifer Raley, Patrick Schoenberger, Leslie Taylor, Kristen Whitesell

Economic Development Commission

Curtis Brown, Matthew Burgan, Dr. Silvio Borrero Caldas, Lisa Colavito, Leona Charles, Dr. Asif Dowla, Brandie Edelen, Nicholas Hooper, Jacob Keller, Dr. Dale Moore, Mark Robinson, Jr., Kenneth Russell, Dr. Rupart Talukder

Electrical Examiners Board

Dale Abell, Donald Haskin, David Lindsey, Ronald Phetteplace, Robert Spence

Emergency Services Board

Jason Adams, Brian Cooper, Shawn Davidson, Ken Hicks, Jessica Myers, J. A. Nelson, Hattie Norris, Ernest Rogers

Ethics Commission

Larry Crabtree, Dr. Joseph DeVitis, Nicholas Hooper, Daniel Kerns, Robert McGann

Family Violence Coordination Council

Larry Crabtree, Meghan Fitzgerald, Denise Mortensen, Taylor Spencer-Davis

Historic Preservation Commission

Jocelyn Copeland, Jeremy Hanson, Eve Love, Chris McKay, Matthew Riedel, Patricia Samford, Teresa Wilson, Apryl Yates

Housing Authority Board

James Bell, Michael Bellis, Reverend Andrea Cummings, Bradley Knipmeyer, Donnetta Reed, Natalie Weech, Alexis Zoss

Human Relations Commission

Dornita Brown, Kelsey Bush, Joanna Colvin, Adrienne Dillahunt, Dr. Michael English, Steven Kendrick, Sr., Max Levasseur, Norma Pipkin, Austin Seivold, Renee Thomas, Sean Wickers

Length of Service Award Program

John Walters

Library Board of Trustees

Sharon Fitzsimmons, Judith Gwynn, John Johnston, Charles Stein, John Walters, Dorothy Waters

Local Management Board

Troy Cowan, Celia Engel, William Hill

Metropolitan Commission

Roy Alvey, George Anas, Dale Antosh, Keith Dugan, Joseph Gould, Ronald Hafner, Joseph Mattingly, III, John Pleisse

Planning Commission

Gerald Cousineau, III, Lynn Delahay, Judith Fillius, Conor Loughran, Patricia Robrecht, Joseph St. Clair, Howard Thompson, Joseph Van Kirk

Plumbing Gas Fuel Board

John Fluhart, Daniel Garrison, Richard Montgomery, Bernie Taylor

Police Accountability Board

Jenna Aubert, Nickolas Cromwell, Michelle Dowleyne, Leslie Everett, Buren Kidd, Dr. Linda Lymas, John Lydon, III, Thomas Phelan, Charles Shilling

Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board

Dale Antosh, Max Levasseur

Recreation and Parks Board

Jeffrey Kennedy, Lawrence Ludwig, John Lydon, III, David McDonough, Sean Ritchie, Nathaniel Scroggins, Sara Urtz

Retiree Benefit Trust of St. Mary's County

John Walters

Sheriff's Office Retirement Plan Board

Joseph Russell

Social Services Board

Michael Blackwell, Jason Dubard, Meghan Fitzgerald, Tony Lawrence, Kimberly Quade, Eboney Rothwell, Dr. Randall Salm, Renee Thomas, Annette Wood

Transportation Advisory Committee

Rowena Bossio, Laura Carrington, Leon Carrington, William Hill, Dr. Glenn Orlin, Dr. Michael Valcke

Wicomico Shores Golf Course Advisory Board

Terry Black, Thomas Eicholtz, Jim Hodges, Joseph King, Bernard Kneeland, Jr., Gerald Ostrowski, Sean Ritchie

6. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR FEBRUARY 10 AND FEBRUARY 24, 2026. There will be no meeting of the Commissioners on February 17, 2026

B. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - Reallocation of FY26 SSTAP funding

I move to approve the Budget Amendment reallocating \$195,995 of FY26 SSTAP funding to purchase two transit vans and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

C. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - STS Update Presentation

MOTION 1: I move to approve the ADA Policies, Appeals Policy and Procedures, and the Disciplinary Policy with Code of Conduct, as presented, and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents. Also I move to have the DPW&T Director to maintain and approve related Department Policy updates.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

D. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - FY26 STS Operating Grant Award

I move to approve the FY2026 Maryland Department of Transportation/Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT/MTA) operating grant agreement for the St. Mary's Transit System (STS) in the amount of \$4,622,257, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the related Budget Amendments, and for staff to submit the Grant Agreement electronically.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

E. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION - FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending (Earmark) Project Application

MOTION 1: I move to approve a new FY27 capital project that combines the scope and budget of PF-3101 ADRC Electronic Plumbing Control System and PF-3103 ADRC Physical Security Upgrades into a single ADRC Safety and Security Modernization project, 100% federally funded in the amount of \$625,940.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

MOTION 2: I move to approve an FY27 Congressional Directed Funding request for the new project in accordance with current earmark guidance, and to have Commissioner President sign any related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

7. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Updates

Present: John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

MOTION 1: I move to authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of opposition to the House and Senate for HB 565 - County Boards of Education - Elections - District Voting (Fair Representative Act).

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

MOTION 2: I move to support HB 613/SB 368 - Calvert and St. Mary's Counties - Living Shorelines and Nonstructural Shorelines Stabilization Measures and to authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of support to the House and Senate for HB 613/SB 368.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

MOTION 3: I move to authorize the Commissioner President to sign letters of support with amendments to the House and Senate for HB 610 -St. Mary's County - Gaming by Qualified Organization - License Required.

Motion by Commissioner Michael L. Hewitt, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

8. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

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

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: I move to enter into closed session to discuss legal advice.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

9. CLOSED SESSION

A. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, Commissioner President

Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner

Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner

Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

David Weiskopf, County Administrator

David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator

Buffy Giddens, County Attorney

Jennifer Utz, Director, Dept. of Emergency Services

Julie Burch, Recorder

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

Time Held: 12:18 p.m. - 12:32 p.m.

Purpose: To discuss strategy in collective bargaining or litigation.

B. LEGAL ADVICE

Present: James R. Guy, Commissioner President

Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner

Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner

Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

David Weiskopf, County Administrator

David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator

Buffy Giddens, County Attorney

John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

Julie Burch, Recorder

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

Time Held: 12:33 p.m. - 12:57 p.m.

Purpose: To discuss strategy in collective bargaining or litigation.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:57 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on February 10, 2026

JB
Julie Burch, Senior Administrative Coordinator