

Commissioners of St. Mary's County Meeting Minutes (Tuesday, February 10, 2026)
Generated by Julie Burch on Tuesday, February 10, 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
Leenika Belfield-Martin, Communications Coordinator, Public Information Office
Julie Burch, Recorder

Commissioner President Vice President Ostrow 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 February 3, 2026.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr., second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow
Not Present at Vote: Commissioner Guy

2. PROCLAMATION

A proclamation was presented for National Engineers Week.

3. MAIN AGENDA ITEM

A. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - Capital Improvement Program Update & Chopticon High School Multi-Systemic Renovation Built to Learn Act Funding Memorandum of Understanding

I move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Built to Learn Act funding in the amount of \$13,531,434 for the Chopticon High School Multi-Systemic Renovation, as approved by the Board of Education on December 9, 2025, to be submitted to the Interagency Commission on School Construction and MD Stadium Authority, in accordance with state procedures.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

B. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Request to Hold Public Hearing - Proposed Amendment of the St. Mary's County Excise Tax Ordinance

I move to approve and authorize the County Attorney's Office to hold a Public Hearing on March 10 at 6:30 p.m. to consider the proposed amendment of the St. Mary's County Excise Tax Ordinance

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Commissioners Guy, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

Nay: Commissioner Colvin

4. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. DRAFT AGENDAS FOR FEBRUARY 24, 2026, AND MARCH 3, 2026. There will be no meeting of the Commissioners on February 17, 2026.

B. DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT - Status Update - St. Mary's 2050 Plan

Present: Jessica S.B. Andritz, Director

Courtney Jenkins, Deputy Director

Leigh Anne King, AICP, Director, Clarion Associates

An update regarding St. Mary's 2025: Charting Our Tomorrow was presented.

C. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Lease Agreement - St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce

I move to approve the Lease Agreement between the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and the Saint Mary's County Chamber of Commerce and authorize the Commissioner President to sign all related documents.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

D. DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS - St. Clements Island Museum Lease

I move to approve the St. Clements Island Lease with the Department of Natural Resources 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

E. DEPARTMENT OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES - FY2026 Senior Rides, Project MD2605 Notification of Grant Award

I move to approve the Senior Rides Operating Grant Agreement in the amount of \$16,080, including the \$5,360 required County match, \$12,525 of additional County funding, and \$1,500 in other income, and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the related documents.

Motion by Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow, second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

F. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund - Framework and Discussion

Present: John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

Mr. Houser reviewed the proposed ordinance, which provides a local statutory framework for the formal establishment of a Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund, including eligibility requirements, directions for the solicitation and review of grant applications, and reporting and post-award monitoring of recipients.

5. LEGISLATION

A. OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY - Legislative Updates

Present: John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney

MOTION 1: I move to support HB 668 – Prohibition of Roadside Solicitation and Donations in St. Mary’s County as drafted, and to authorize Commissioner President Guy to sign letters of support to the House and Senate.

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 oppose HB 81 / SB 55 - Motor Vehicles - Police Stops - Secondary Enforcement and Excludable Evidence, and to authorize Commissioner President Guy to sign letters of opposition to the House and Senate.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr., second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

MOTION 3: I move to oppose HB 176 / SB 460 - State Department of Assessments and Taxation and Department of General Services - Property Appraisal Aids - Geographic Images, and to authorize Commissioner President Guy to sign letters of opposition to the House and Senate.

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 4: I move to support HB 674 / SB 270 - Public Service Commission - Full Costs and Benefits Analysis of Sources of Electricity Generation and to authorize Commissioner President Guy to sign letters of support to the House and Senate.

Motion by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin, second by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

6. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

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

MOTION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION

I move to enter into closed session to discuss Real Property.

Motion by Commissioner Michael R. Alderson, Jr., second by Commissioner Eric S. Colvin
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Commissioners Guy, Colvin, Hewitt, Alderson, Ostrow

7. CLOSED SESSION

A. REAL PROPERTY

Present: James R. Guy, Commissioner President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator
Raymond Bivens, Director, Department of Recreation and Parks
Tracy Rohan, Recorder

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

Time Held: 12:15 p.m. - 12:19 p.m.

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

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on February 24, 2026.

JB

Julie Burch, Senior Admin Coordinator

9. BUDGET WORK SESSION

A. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE - FY2027 Budget Work Session Review of CIP

Present: Vanetta Van Cleave, Chief Financial Officer