

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Tuesday, January 18, 2011**

Present: Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Cynthia L. Jones
Commissioner Daniel L. Morris
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
John Savich, County Administrator
Sharon Ferris (Recorder)

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner President Russell called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to adopt the minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, January 11, 2011, as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Jarboe abstained.

HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY: "FACING FENCES" SCHOOLS ART PROJECT

Present: Dr. Regina Faden, Executive Director, Historic St. Mary's City

St. Mary's City is hosting the Smithsonian Institutes "Between Fences" exhibit at Boyden Gallery from January 18 through March 4, 2011. To compliment the Smithsonian display, Dr. Faden and students from her *Introduction to Museum Studies* class organized a community-wide initiative: "Facing Fences – Southern Maryland." One facet of this initiative is the painting of picket fence posts which allows individuals, through art, an opportunity to express their thoughts, on removing barriers and bringing a diverse community together. Fence posts were painted by students from St. Michael's School, Chesapeake Charter School, Cub Scout Pack from Town Creek Elementary School and the Boys and Girls Club at Spring Ridge Middle School and will be displayed throughout the County.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agendas for January 25, 2011 and February 1, 2011.

Commissioner Jarboe requested a public forum on January 31. Commissioner Morgan suggested holding the forum on Tuesday, Feb 1, following the 6:30 pm public hearing. A schedule will be prepared for the rest of the year.

Commissioner Jarboe requested that "approval of checks" be added back on BOCC agendas, noting that a copy of the check register was not available over the weekend to review and that he was not present when the vote to change the process of approving checks at BOCC meetings was taken. He asked if the Board would consider rescinding the motion approved on January 4, 2011.

The remaining Commissioners reaffirmed their intention to review the check register each week. The unavailability of this week's check register was an unintentional oversight by staff who will ensure that future check registers are made available to the Commissioners by close of business each Friday.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to rescind the motion that was made and approved on January 4, 2011, which was to delegate to the County Administrator and Chief Financial Officer the authority to issue checks without Board of County Commissioner approval, in accordance with the approved budget and all internal finance processes, and that the Board return to the original process of approving and authorizing the President to sign the check register. Motion denied 3-2. Commissioners Russell, Morgan and Jones voted nay.

2. Department of Public Safety (Dave Zylak, Director)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Budget Amendment transferring funds in the amount of \$8,586 from Emergency Communications (1701) to Information Technology (1001) for required annual maintenance on the AQUA and PROQA software. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Department of Public Works and Transportation (George Erichsen, Director)

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize Commissioner President to execute the budget amendment creating a new capital project titled Hewitt Road Phase 3 and realigning budgets in the amount of \$880,050, from the current State Aid Capital Project, on behalf of the Department of Public Works and Transportation. Motion carried 5-0.

(Jacqueline Fournier, Transportation Manager and Mary Ann Coontz, STS Transportation Manager, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation)

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the ARRA grant amendment from the Maryland Transit Administration, on behalf of the Department of Public Works and Transportation, realigning the actual cost of the 30 foot STS buses with a net cost impact of zero. Motion carried 5-0.

VISIT 911 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

The Commissioners toured the 911 Emergency Operations Center.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ST. MARY'S COUNTY DEPT. OF INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY, AND THE TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY COUNCIL: SMCPS RACE TO THE TOP PROGRAM AND SUPPORTING BROADBAND INITIATIVE

Present: Dr. Michael Martirano, Superintendent, St. Mary's County Public Schools
Wayne Clark, Executive Director, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland and board member of Maryland Broadband Cooperative
James Corns, Director, Information Technology, St. Mary's County Board of Education
Bob Kelly, Director, Information Technology, St. Mary's County Government

Dr. Martirano provided an overview of Race to the Top (RTTT), a federally-funded program to reform the education system nationwide. St. Mary's County Board of Education received \$1.6M to adopt their RTTT project. These funds will be utilized to fund professional development and technology. The online testing and reporting requirements associated with RTTT require Broadband connectivity to all education facilities, which is not currently available. Mr. Kelly, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Corns provided background information on the technology infrastructure in St. Mary's County Schools and County government, noting the changes that have occurred over the years. There is a need to have fiber optics and the equipment to support it in the County, not only for the schools, but for businesses and the private sector. Working with the Broadband Cooperative to bring broadband connectivity to the Southern Maryland Counties, St. Mary's County was included in a statewide submission to the US Department of Commerce to expand Broadband access to "Anchor Institutions" throughout the state by installing a state-wide fiber network. The letter the Commissioners are being asked to sign is a follow up to a meeting with Mr. Urban, Director, Maryland Department of Information Technology, to codify agreements made during that meeting regarding location of broadband infrastructure in St. Mary's County which will be funded by the stimulus grant.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve and sign the proposed letter to Gregory Urban, Dir. of the state of MD's Dept. of Information Technology, detailing our understanding of the connectivity St. Mary's County will receive through the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NTIA-BTOP Round Two Stimulus Grant recently awarded to the state of Maryland. Motion is made contingent that this is not a grant match and that it is money coming to the County without a match. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week.

Commissioner Jarboe requested the Commissioners be provided the priority list for ice and snow removal and how the determination is made. He noted the recent accident on Golden Beach Rd.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to enter into Executive Session at 1:30 pm to discuss appointments to boards and committees. Motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Jarboe voted nay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Cynthia L. Jones
Commissioner Daniel L. Morris
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
John Savich, County Administrator
Sarah Cannavo, Boards/Committees

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1
Time Held: 1:40 pm – 3:05 pm
Subject Discussed: Appointments to Boards and Committees.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Board of County Commissioners adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)