

ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Tuesday, May 8, 2012

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 business meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Chesapeake Building meeting room, Governmental Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to adopt the minutes of May 1, 2012, as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

**PROCLAMATIONS WERE PRESENTED FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES WEEK,
NATIONAL NURSES WEEK, NATIONAL NURSING HOME WEEK, AND NATIONAL
TRANSPORTATION WEEK**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agendas for May 15 and 22, 2012.
2. **Department of Public Safety and IT (Bob Kelly, Director)**

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the budget amendment transferring \$375,000 from the Hurricane Irene, Project OT1220, to the BOCC Emergency Reserves and realign the project accounts according to actual expenditures. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the budget amendment which will realign the FY12 budget between Building Services and Building Services-Law, on behalf of the Department of Public Works & Transportation. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to sign a Resolution accepting Tom Hodges Drive located in the 6th Election District, into the highway maintenance system, and a Resolution posting a 25-mph speed limit. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to execute three Resolutions to install “No Parking” signs on Dahlia Drive, Tallwood Road, and Delphinium Drive and authorize staff to proceed with the improvements as recommended. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Department of Recreation and Parks (*Brian Loewe, Director; David Guyther Parks Manager*)

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to sign Modification 003 to U.S. Government Contract No. N62477-98-RP-00055, and related Certificate of Signature, that authorizes the improvements to be constructed on the leased property at John G. Lancaster Park on Willows Road. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the budget amendment that will close out a portion of the Derelict Boat Removal Grant (PL0801). Motion carried 5-0.

(Jessica Hale, Recreation Division Manager, Dept. of Recreation and Parks)

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve and authorize Department of Recreation and Parks staff to submit the U.S. Olympic Committee Paralympic Division 2012 Olympic Opportunity Fund grant application documents electronically in the total amount of \$17,555, which is consistent with the hard copy reviewed by the County Commissioners of St. Mary’s County. Motion carried 5-0.

2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Present: George Sparling, County Attorney
Angela Blondino, Paralegal, Office of the County Attorney

Mr. Sparling updated the Commissioners on St. Mary's County bills and other legislation passed by the 2012 Session of the Maryland General Assembly.

WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (WIP) PHASE II UPDATE

Present: Phil Shire, Director, Dept Land Use and Growth Management
Jackie Meiser, Director, Metropolitan Commission
Daryl Calvano, Director, Environmental Health Services, St. Mary's County
Health Department

Discussions centered on the current EDU capacity at the Marylay-Taylor plant, how capacity is calculated (EDU versus actual daily flow), the Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), and future growth related issues. MetCom's current budget does not take into consideration WIP initiatives and associated costs. Prior to MetCom incorporating WIP initiatives into their budget to meet the goals of the septic sector, the County must determine projected growth areas that will be designated for new sewer services and establish a timeline for implementation. Bay Restoration Funds are available to upgrade on site septic systems and guidance is needed to determine how funds will be used in the future.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week.

RECESS

PUBLIC FORUM

Commissioner Russell opened the Public Forum for public comments at 6:30 pm at the Evergreen Elementary School, 43765 Evergreen Way, California, MD

Public Comments. *(Comments as noted below are intended as highlights of testimony given and are not verbatim)*

Joseph Wood, 39126 Avie Ln., Mechanicsville, MD 20659

- Past President of Saint Mary's County Farm Bureau and member of Agriculture, Seafood and Forestry Board
- Supports farm preservation – personal farm is preserved
- Losing agriculture land in the County at an alarming rate – need to protect it
- Provide funding for rural preservation - have to budget to secure our land base
- Thanked Commissioners for bike trail – rode on it and it was super

Robert T. Jarboe, 20040 Pear Hill Rd, Leonardtown MD 20650

- Testified at budget hearing and left written testimony
- Supports Mr. Dorsey's letter and letter signed by John Knott
- Supports the agriculture community
- Noted a number of others in the audience who support land preservation – a lot of young people - a new breed of farmers

Tracy Clinnine-Noel, 44753 Green Acre Ln., California, MD 20619

- Concerned with traffic issues in Wildewood - speeding and individuals not stopping for school buses

Phil Dorsey, 22835 Washington St., Leonardtown, MD 20650

- Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Board letter was submitted to Commissioners asking for additional funding for land preservation efforts – response from you was to attend the Budget Hearing or Public Forums to address issues of concern - that is why I am here tonight
- Requested that the letter he previously submitted for the Budget Hearing be incorporated into the record for this meeting
- Failure to preserve agriculture land will send a terrible message to the County

John Parlett, P.O. Box 460, Charlotte Hall, MD

- Important that agricultural land is preserved
- Have 15 or 16 people here tonight to reinforce how important agriculture land is
- Have a new young group of farmers
- Agricultural base has changed from the traditional farm to crops we have never grown here before
- Agriculture is important to County

Justin Shoger, 43600 Wild Iris St., California, MD 20619

- Went to Forum in February and asked for development information on Primrose Park – information you provided helped me understand the development process but I want to understand how the community will continue to grow – can you facilitate that with the builder and surrounding neighborhoods
- Concerned with builder working within certain hours

Eileen M. Hislop, 44163 St. Andrews Lane, California, MD 20619

- Concerned with Wildewood projects - wetland areas and also a buffer between St. Andrews Estate has never happened
- Doesn't feel rules of original builder were passed on to new developer
- St. Andrews Church Road has traffic issues – wants County to put pressure on the state to bring the road up to state highway standards
- State law requires driving with lights on when raining and no talking/texting on cell phones – why can't those be enforced without a driver having to be stopped for another reason – Laws are laws and should be enforced

Christine Allred, 23011 Wedgewood Ln., California, MD 20619

- Thanked the Department of Public Works and Transportation for responding so quickly to address her concerns with the bus stop and traffic issues in Wildewood
- Asked Commissioners to reconsider their policy allowing building permits to continue in Wildewood when the new school is at capacity –no new school should be at capacity.
- If the developer continues to crank out new homes in area, it will not only bring more traffic issues but more students

Ray St. Onge, 23439 Lakespur St., California MD 20619

- Attended Forum in February – thanked Land Use and Growth Management for their feedback on several issues but the letter didn't answer the wetlands question
- One day an area in Wildewood is wetlands and the next day they are building on it
- If guidelines are not in writing, they can clear cut
- Not much Sheriff presence in Wildewood
- Do something about the right turn lanes along 235 – they are dangerous - people cut through parking lots to avoid

Frank Allen, 18988 Pt. Lookout Road, Lexington Park, MD

- President Tidewater Land Trust – a non profit organization dedicated to preserving southern Maryland's agriculture, forested and open space land
- Previously worked with the County to preserve several acres in the County
- County is working with Navy to preserve acres
- Had meeting last month with county staff to work out where emphasis should be placed to do rural legacy work - will continue to meet with county staff and agriculture folks
- Planning long term to preserve some open space areas for things like trails and alternative transportation paths

Lawrence Langley, 20481 Deer Wood Park Dr., Leonardtown, MD 20650

- Support rural legacy and preservation of open space
- Need to protect agricultural community
- Support \$5M request to preserve our rural legacy

John Springer, Wildewood

- Concerned with clear-cut in Wildewood
- Lot of talk about preserving agriculture land, Wildewood should be preserved not destroyed

- Commissioners say nothing you can do, I don't accept that as response
- When Wildewood was first approved the builder decided everything, where the lots were and how homes were to be built – nothing is on paper about how to develop
- Think Wildewood has been thrown under bus

Thomas Brewer

- First year farmer
- Support Rural Legacy
- Need to develop at a responsible rate and clean-up as we go
- Make sure we are taking care of the land that we are lucky to have

Commissioner Russell asked for a show of hands for all who favor the testimonies for Land Preservation

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Russell closed the Public Forum and adjourned the Board of County Commissioners meeting at approximately 7:15 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)