

**ST. MARYS COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
CHESEAPEAKE BUILDING
Tuesday, February 10, 2009**

Present: Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
John Savich, County Administrator
Betty Jean Pasko, Sr. Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner President Russell called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.
Fr. Thomas G. Lahood of Our Ladys Church at Medleys Neck provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Check Register for checks dated February 10, 2009, with the exception of the check on Page 52 for the amount of \$9,660. Motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Raley asked that this check be held until next week to provide time to get additional information.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to adopt the minutes of the Commissioners meeting of February 3, 2009, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

PROCLAMATION: CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION WEEK

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) members from Chopticon, Great Mills, and Leonardtown high schools received proclamations in recognition of Career and Technical Education Week, February 8-14, 2009.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Commissioners presented a proclamation to James Hanley, Vice-Chair, Human Relations Commission and Janice Walthour, representing the United Committee for Afro-American Contributions (UCAC), recognizing February as Black History Month.

2. GREAT MILLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MUSICAL PRESENTATION

Students from Great Mills High School sang a medley of various songs in celebration of Black History Month.

3. UNIFIED COMMITTEE FOR AFRO-AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS (UCAC): PRESENT OVERVIEW AND EXCERPT FROM *THE FORGOTTEN 14* DOCUMENTARY VIDEO

Present: Nathaniel Scroggins, President
Janice Walthour, Past President and Co-chair,
Memorial Committee for U.S. Colored Troops (USCT);
Idolia Schubrooks, Co-chair, Memorial Committee for USCT
Bob Schaller, Dir., Development and Economic Community Development

In honor of Black History Month, an overview was presented of *The Forgotten Fourteen*, a documentary about 14 black soldiers who served in the U.S. Colored Troops during the Civil War and who received the Medal Honor. Two of the soldiers were from St. Marys County, Sgt. James H. Harris and Pvt. William H. Barnes. The USCT Memorial Committee, a sub-committee of the Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions Monument Committee, is working to secure funding and a site for a memorial. *The Forgotten Fourteen* will air on Channel 95 during the month of February.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agenda for February 17, 2009 (no meeting on Feb. 24, 2009)
2. **Dept. of Public Safety** (*David Zylak, Director*)

Joined by Dennis Gorge, St. Marys County Life Support Unit, Inc. (SMALS), President and Chairman, Board of Directors, and Thomas Hesbach, SMALS, Chief of Operations, Mr. Zylak presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SMALS, the primary provider of pre-hospital emergency ALS services for the County. The MOU addresses the working relationship, funding, and other mutually agreed to commitments between SMALS and the County. The presentation and

BOCC discussion resulted in changes to the MOU. Mr. Zylak said he would coordinate making the changes and returning for BOCC approval.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to acknowledge the MIEMSS ALS Equipment Grant and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the two related Budget Amendments realigning funds and increasing the project budget, by \$7,162, in accordance with the actual grant award amount. Motion carried 5-0.

(Michelle Lilly, Emergency Management Mgr.)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign Amendment Number One to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with the Countys award of \$6,000 for the Federal Fiscal Year 2008 Citizens Corps Grant Program. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Dept. of Public Works & Transportation *(George Erichsen, P.E., Director)*

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Budget Amendment, in the amount of \$1,324, to close out completed project HW6313 Bridge and Culvert Replacement to the FIN09 account. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Dept. of Human Services *(Bennett Connelly, Director; and Ella May Russell, Director, Dept. of Social Services)*

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Agreement with the St. Marys County Department of Social Services to allocate \$50,000 in one-time only emergency funds to meet the needs of individuals and families seeking emergency assistance; and also to sign the Budget Amendment in the amount of \$50,000 re-aligning funds from the BOCC Emergency Reserve to the Department of Social Services account. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Office of the County Administrator *(John Savich, County Administrator)*

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to appoint Paula Andrea to the Social Services Board, term to expire June 30, 2012. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Dept. of Recreation and Parks *(Phil Rollins, Director)*

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Alcohol Beverage License Renewal application for the Wicomico Shores Golf Course. Motion carried 4-1.

Commissioner Jarboe voted no, stating that he feels a better option would be to contract out. There was Board discussion in support of motion relative to better control of hours and concern that contracting out may result in or encourage more of a bar atmosphere with extended hour. Commissioner Jarboe added that hours could be stipulated in the contract.

6. *(continued) (Debra Pence, Museum Director; and Sheila Gibbons Hiebert, President, Board of Directors, The Friends of the St. Clements Island and Piney Point Museums)*

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize staff to move forward with presenting the draft Memorandum of Understanding to the Friends of the St. Clements and Piney Point Museums Board for approval and signature.

Ms. Hiebert said the MOU, *(which had been reviewed and signed by the County Attorney)* had been reviewed by the Friends of the St. Clements and Piney Point Museums Board and that she is authorized to sign the MOU. If the BOCC agrees, it could be considered in final version and ready for approval and signatures.

Commissioners Dement and Raley amended the motion.

**To approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the MOU with the Friends of the St. Clements and Piney Point Museums Board.
Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Easement Agreement between the Cathleen Lyon Revocable Trust and the Board of County Commissioners to establish an entranceway over the Lyon property for public access to the Three Notch Trail. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONERS TIME

The Commissioners highlighted upcoming events, events attended over the past week and personal interest items.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:52 AM.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

An FY2010 Budget Work Session was held beginning at approximately 1:30 pm.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING AND PUBLIC FORUM

Present: Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley (absent)
John Savich, County Administrator
Betty Jean Pasko, Sr. Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING: LEONARDTOWN LIBRARY SPACE NEEDS AND OPTIONS FOR A LARGER LIBRARY

The Public Information meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Commissioner President Russell. Sign-up sheets were provided for citizens wishing to provide public comment.

Present: Kathleen Reif, Director, St. Marys County Library, and Library Board of Trustees
George Erichsen, Director, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation

Ms. Reif recognized Library Board members in attendance and presented an overview of the countywide library services assessment conducted in 2006 and its recommendations, a summary of the increase in use and business levels at the Leonardtown Library, and a description of recommended improvements and the business vision for the future.

Mr. Erichsen recognized Recreation & Parks Advisory Board members in attendance and presented an overview of options which included renovation and expansion of the current building and construction of a new building and potential new building sites within or near the Governmental Center campus. Mr. Erichsens presentation included site rating / ranking evaluation criteria and green library building features.

Mr. Savich said this is an item in the capital budget for the coming year. The budget needs to be finalized in May. The County is soliciting for an architect; however, they cannot be given an assignment until a site is selected.

Commissioner President Russell opened the meeting for public comment at 7:10 PM.

Public Testimony

Paul Kelly, Leonardtown, MD

Provided testimony advocating a single-story, green design, not displacing recreation facilities, and encouraging the BOCC to consider and probe all financial options.

Joan Marsh, Leonardtown, MD

A former member of the Library Board, Ms. Marsh provided testimony in support of the Library needing adequate meeting and study rooms and encouraged considering expanded growth for the next generation.

Pat White, 39627 Osprey Pl., Leonardtown, MD

Provided testimony advocating separate rooms for kids, meeting room, adequate parking, light, and signage, automatic doors, and display areas for best sellers / new arrivals.

Patrick Dugan, 26055 Sotterly Rd., Hollywood, MD

Mr. Dugan, Chair, Recreation and Parks Board, introduced other board members in attendance and provided testimony supporting the need to retain Miedzinski Park, playing fields, and the Leonard Hall drill hall.

Patrick Leares, 41525 Trace Ct., Leonardtown, MD

Provided testimony regarding the historical significance of and retaining the armory structure (current library building).

Bob Richardson, 28949 Livingstone Dr., Mechanicsville, MD

Mr. Richardson is the Vice-Chair of Babe Ruth Baseball and provided testimony to keep the ball fields on the Governmental Center campus, which have been in use for 16 years. Mr. Richardson provided the routine play schedule by age group (total 90 kids / 180 adults). He said if they loose the ball field, they would have nowhere else to go as Dorsey Park and St. Clements are full.

Annette Madel, 38766 Cobrums Wharf Rd., Avenue, MD 20609

A member of the Friends for Library, Ms. Madel provided testimony in support of a new library and solicited for volunteers to help with the upcoming book sale, March 13, 14, and 15.

Pete Himmelheber, Leonardtown, MD

Provided testimony encouraging the consideration of future growth; i.e., to keep from being in this same place 30 years from now.

Commissioner President Russell closed the information meeting at 7:28 PM.

PUBLIC FORUM

Commissioner President Russell opened the Public Forum at 7:34 pm. Sign-up sheets were provided for citizens wishing to provide public comment.

Cindi Thomas, 48785 St. James Church Rd., Lexington Park, MD

Expressed concerns about the Elms Advisory Committee; had contacted BOCC two years ago about concerns; wants issues revisited. The committee is not representative of the community as it consists primarily of school representatives. No one on committee lives within 18 miles of Elms Beach property. I am surrounded Elms Beach property on three sides. School board has created trails and postings without having plans approved. Concerned about vacant, partially burned out homes which are an eyesore and safety issue.

Commissioner Mattingly said he will follow-up with the fire department about burning down the homes that Ms. Thomas referenced.

Rich Johnson, Valley Lee, MD

Mr. Johnson provided testimony regarding concerns with Elms Beach. Mr. Johnson said he is a hunter and expressed concern with the make-up and actions of the Elms Advisory Committee. Mr. Johnsons presentation included maps showing an incremental increase in the amount of land for environmental education and a decrease in land available for hunting. A copy of Mr. Johnsons presentation was submitted for the record.

Steve Riley, 42329 Brook Manor Rd., Mechanicsville, MD

Mr. Riley supplemented Mr. Johnsons testimony by elaborating on the maps. He said the school system and the hunters could co-exist with hunters using the property seven months out of the year and the schools the remainder of the year. Greenwell State Park, was cited as an example of co-existing with trails.

The following individuals provided testimony in support of increasing the Countys budget for the school system:

Don Asher (EASMC), 41681 Queens Landing, Mechanicsville, MD

Joe Shade, 19724 Oak Ct., Lexington Park, MD

Courtney Dowling (CEASMC)

Dawn Pipkin (EASMC)

Jeanne Taylor (EASMC)

Liz Purcell Leskinen (MSTA) 44219 Airport Rd., California, MD

Anna Laughlin (EASMC) Lusby, MD

Wanda Twigg (EASMC), 44219 Airport Rd., California, MD (copy of presentation submitted for the record).

Harold Siskind, citizen

Questioned how much the County has in the fund balance.

Commissioner Mattingly responded that it is actually \$11m and noted that Bond Counsel and the CFO suggest not funding recurring costs with the fund balance, and additionally noted that the budget work sessions can be viewed on channel 95. The first operating budget work session is scheduled for March 2nd.

Commissioner President Russell closed the public forum at 8:15 pm.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to adjourn.
Motion carried 4-0. *Commissioner Raley was ill and not in attendance. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.*

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Betty Jean Pasko, Sr. Admin. Coordinator (Recorder)