

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
Tuesday, September 5, 2006**

Present: Commissioner President Thomas F. McKay
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
George G. Forrest, County Administrator
Betty Jean Pasko, Senior Admin. Coordinator (Recorder)

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Check Register, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to adopt the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of August 29, 2006, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

PROCLAMATION: LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH

Present: Tammy Wienstone (past President of NAIFA, representing Scott Lucas, current President of NAIFA, Lucas Insurance Agency)

The Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE), the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA) and a coalition representing life insurance companies and organizations have designated September as "Life Insurance Awareness Month" in order to educate the public about life insurance and the importance of seeking professional advice from qualified insurance agents and financial advisors.

The Board of County Commissioners proclaimed September 2006 as LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH in St. Mary's County and urged citizens to learn more about life insurance and its benefits.

PROCLAMATION: FORGET-ME-NOT MONTH, ST. MARY'S DISABLED VETERANS, CHAPTER 26

Present: Robert Wilcoxon, Chairman, Forget-Me-Not Campaign
Ruth Wilcoxon, DAVA Unit 26 Chaplin
Thomas Dennee, Commander Chapter 26
Charles Myers, Past State Department Commander: Adjutant

The Disabled American Veterans organization works for the welfare of disabled veterans and their families by offering a free service of filing claims for government benefits and by assisting with job, hospital, employment and other issues. Chapter 26 of the DAV has been established to help the disabled veterans of St. Mary's County and has chosen the month of September for its annual FORGET-ME-NOT campaign, announcing that all funds contributed will be utilized for disabled veterans in St. Mary's County.

The Board of Commissioners proclaimed September 2006 as Disabled Veterans' FORGET-ME-NOT month in St. Mary's County and urged the support of all citizens, interested groups, and organizations.

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

Present: Susan Bergmann, Addictions Coordinator, St. Mary's County Health Dept.
Gary Lynch, Assistant Director, Walden-Sierra, Inc.
Rob Prince, Substance Abuse Treatment Supervisor, Walden-Sierra, Inc
Judy Combs, RN Walden-Sierra, Inc.
Charles Wood, Finance Director, Walden-Sierra
Betsy Lenhart-Cooksey, Anchor Program Supervisor, Walden-Sierra, Inc.
Valerie Colvin, Community Development Manager, Walden-Sierra, Inc.
Walter Biscoe, Prevention Coordinator, Division of Community Services
Larry Harvey, Director, Marcey House

Substance abuse is a disease that many residents in our community face. Excellent prevention and treatment programs exist in St. Mary's County. The Proclamation promulgates to the community that they have the support of caring professionals when facing their time of crisis.

The Board of Commissioners proclaimed September 2006 as NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH and called upon residents to observe this month by seeking needed help and support, engaging in alcohol and drug free activities, and supporting this year's theme *Join the Voices of Recovery: Build a Stronger, Healthier Community*.

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Present: Karen Russell, Wellness and Health Promotion Program Manager, and her husband, who is a prostate cancer survivor
James Berry, Building Services Worker, Health Department
Leslie Payne, Public Information Officer

In 2006, the American Cancer Society projects that there will be more than 4,300 new cases of prostate cancer among Maryland residents and that approximately 500 Maryland residents will die from the disease. The St. Mary's County Health Department is encouraging men to talk with their health care providers about whether to get screened for prostate cancer, and if indicated, have further testing and treatment.

The Board of Commissioners proclaimed September 2006 as PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in St. Mary's County and commends this observance to all citizens.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agenda for September 19, 2006 (no meeting September 12, 2006)
2. **Office of the Sheriff and the Health Department** (*Captain Kenny Cusic; Erin Shoemaker, Fiscal Manager, Office of the Sheriff*)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to authorize the Sheriff to sign and accept the Tobacco Use Prevention, Education and Cessation Program FY 2007 Letter of Agreement with the Health Department and to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Budget Amendment in the amount of \$3,015 to reflect the increase for this project and the decrease in the supplemental reserve. Motion carried 5-0.

3. **Department of Economic and Community Development** (*John Savich, Director, DECD; Dennis Nicholson, Executive Director, Housing*)

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the letter to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Community Development Administration, irrevocably transferring \$2,699,153 of the County's On-Behalf-Of Tax Credit Bond Allocation for FY2006 to the Community Development Administration for use in issuing housing bonds on behalf of St. Mary's County. Motion carried 5-0.

(Rhonda Garcia, Program Mgr., Housing; Ms. Hamilton, Angel's Watch; Mr. Lancaster, Three Oaks)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Emergency Shelter Grant

Application in the amount of \$49,220 to finance homeless prevention activities and services provided to St. Mary's County residents through the Department of Social Services, Angel's Watch, and the Three Oaks Center. Motion carried 5-0.

4. **Department of Recreation, Parks, and Community Services** (*Phil Rollins, Director, RP&CS*)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to sign the support letter and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Grant Application in the amount of \$2,500 in funding from the United States Tennis Association and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Grant Application in the amount of \$5,000 in funding from United States Tennis Association Mid-Atlantic Maryland to assist with the renovation of the Dorsey Park tennis courts. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **Department of Aging** (*Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Jennie Page, Deputy Director; and Peggy Maio, Fiscal Supervisor*)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the St. Mary's County Department on Aging Notification of Grant Award in the amount of \$9,175 for the Curb Abuse in Medicare & Medicaid Program. Motion carried 5-0.

6. **Land Use and Growth Management** (*Phil Shire, Planner, LU&GM*)

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Proposed Instrument of Final Transfer for 13 Transferable Development Rights for 13 additional lots in the RL and CMX Zones: Subdivision Case File #04-120-027, Cecil's Mill Townhomes, in accordance with Chapter 26 and Schedule 32.2 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Proposed Instrument of Final Transfer for 12 Transferable Development Rights for six additional lots in the RPD Zone: Subdivision Case File #03-120-008, Forest Knolls, Section 2, in accordance with Chapter 26 and Schedule 32.2 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Jarboe abstained.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Proposed Instrument of Final Transfer for a total of two Transferable Development Rights for Development of a 3-Acre Outparcel in the RPD Zone: Subdivision Case File #06-110-016, Mark and Lucy Sloan Minor Subdivision, in accordance with Chapter 26, and Schedule 32.2 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Proposed Instruments of Final Transfer for a total of four Transferable Development Rights for two additional lots in the RPD Zone: Subdivision Case File #05-110-112, Greer Estates, Lots 500-2A1, 500-2A2, and 500-2C, in accordance with Chapter 26, Schedule 32.2 and Section 52.7.2 of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Department of Public Works and Transportation** (*Elaine Kramer, CFO, for George Erichsen, P.E. Director, DPW&T*)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Budget Amendment to move funds from the St. Andrews Area D (SW 0302) project into the FIN 07 Capital Reserve account in the amount of \$134,000. Motion carried 5-0.

EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Present: Keith Fairfax, Chairman
Bobby Braddock
Mike Barnett

The Emergency Services Committee (ESC) is comprised of representatives from each Fire Department and Rescue Squad in St. Mary's County and the Advanced Life Support Unit. In addition, a representative from the Emergency Management Agency participates on the committee. The purpose of the Emergency Services Committee is to support those emergency organizations and to serve in the best interests of St. Mary's County citizens.

The report highlighted ESC tasks and activities, membership, standing committees, significant activities for 2005, and challenges encountered during 2005. The report also provided various trend and statistical data and an overview of plans for 2006.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY: HURRICANE AMANDA "TABLETOP" EXERCISE (BASED ON FICTIONAL CATEGORY 3 HURRICANE) AFTER ACTION REPORT

Present: Tim Cameron, Director, Department of Public Safety
Michelle Lilly, Emergency Planner, Dept. of Public Safety

On August 4, 2006 St. Mary's County Department of Public Safety hosted the Hurricane Amanda Tabletop Exercise in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The exercise was structured to be a facilitated discussion based on a fictional category 3 hurricane passing through the county.

In conjunction with this exercise, a survey was sent out to residents in the County that were identified as owning a residence in the Category 5 storm surge areas. In addition to survey results, the After Action Report provides an overview of the exercise and exercise discussion and issues identified.

Due to the timeframe of this exercise, some of the “lessons learned” were applied to emergency operations activities during Tropical Depression Ernesto.

TROPICAL DEPRESSION ERNESTO

Present: Tim Cameron, Director, Department of Public Safety
George Erichsen, P.E., Director, DPW&T
Michelle Lilly, Emergency Planner, Dept. of Public Safety
Elaine Kramer, CFO, Finance Dept.

On Friday, September 1st, 2006 at 3:00 PM, the Board of County Commissioners declared a local state of emergency (placing the St. Mary’s County Emergency Plan into effect) due to the adverse effects from Tropical Storm Ernesto. And on Saturday, September 2nd, 2006, the Commissioner President approved a Resolution addressing public health, safety, and welfare concerns and storm debris disposal from Ernesto.

The presenters provided a briefing regarding the extent of damage and the current status of the storm’s impact on the County, e.g., number of reported injuries, number of calls received on the County emergency number (475-4200 ext. 4911), and the current number of residences without power and without phone service. An overview of events that took place over the weekend during the storm’s aftermath was provided; e.g., information was provided relative to availability /location of roll-away dumpsters, burn centers, dry ice, drinking water, sandbags, and shelters. On Sunday, flyers were distributed out of concern that people on the ground that were most affected may not be getting information. The Ernesto Damage Hotline (475-4200 ext. 4000) was put into place on Saturday. Hotline information (citizens can state their name, address, and extent or description of damage) will allow Public Safety (if not FEMA) to tabulate and pursue possible SBA low-interest loans for recovery.

Citizens were urged to be extremely careful during clean-up efforts. Also, citizens were reminded to heed emergency evacuation information; first calls need to be taken seriously. Delays not only endanger residents, but place volunteers in more difficult rescue situations and increased risk conditions. Mr. Cameron stated that they will be at the County Fair, providing emergency preparedness and response information to the public.

The Commissioners were presented with a Budget Amendment for the estimated Ernesto operating costs (not including capital and payroll related costs.). Resolution No. 2006-71, adopted September 2, 2006, addressing public health, safety and welfare concerns and storm debris removal, was reviewed and discussed.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve the Budget Amendment to move \$294,400 from the Emergency Reserve into the Emergency Activation Division of Public Safety, for Ernesto. Motion carried 5-0.

SMARTCO (SOUTHERN MARYLAND APPLIED RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY CONSORTIUM, INC.) PRESENTATION

Present: Ed Forsman, Director
Ron Ciecka, Vice Chair & Technical Director

An overview of SMARTCO (Southern Maryland Applied Research and Technology Consortium) was presented, including a description of the business and its benefits to the County. SMARTCO, a volunteer program, refurbishes computers and printers, provides training, and donates refurbished hardware to local schools, teachers, and County sponsored countries.

SMARTCO is relocating to the old Kmart Building (Millison Plaza, Lexington Park). A one-time emergency funding grant of \$35,000 was requested to support funding operating costs (building lease) and relocation/transition costs until additional grant funding can be secured.

In light of other County emergency requests (Ernesto and Tri-County Youth Services), the Commissioner President indicated that options will be considered and recommendations will be pursued with the Finance Department.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Commissioner Dement

Congratulations to everyone, all the volunteers and citizens for their cooperation and response to the storm.

Commissioner Mattingly

Thanked everyone for their hard work over the weekend with the storm.

Commissioner Jarboe

Muscular Dystrophy event Monday, Nagle's yard sale produced \$8 – 10,000 for Jerry's Kids.

Commissioner Raley

Thanks to everyone that worked so hard, all the volunteers, with the storm. Reminded everyone to be careful with storm clean-up work.

Commissioner McKay

On Monday, there will be a 9/11 commemoration event at noon, at the Governmental Center.

9/12 Primary election, everyone is encouraged to vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Betty Jean Pasko, Senior Administrative Coordinator