

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
CHESEAPEAKE BUILDING
Tuesday, November 3, 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 (Recorder)

AM EVENT: EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DEDICATION

The Commissioners attended the Evergreen Elementary School dedication ceremony at 9:30 am.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner President Russell called the meeting to order at approximately 1:40 pm. The start of the meeting was delayed because of a technical problem with the audio equipment.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve the bills dated November 3, 2009, with the exception of the National Association of Counties, on Page 4. Motion carried 3-2. Commissioners Mattingly and Russell voted nay.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to adopt the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, October 27, 2009, as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agenda for November 10 and 17, 2009

2. State's Attorney's Office, Child Support Division

(Lyle Long, Sr. Investigator; Pam Soffos, Legal Assistant II)

Re: MD Department of Human Resources, Child Support Enforcement Administration, FFY2010 Cooperative Reimbursement Grant Agreement, in the amount of \$298,763, and related Budget Amendment. Grant is 66% funding; requires a 34% county match (plus DHS federal administrative fee) totaling \$181,391.

The presenters requested that the BOCC take action to:

- approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the FY2010 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement US1011 from the Maryland Department of Human Resources on behalf of the State's Attorney's Office in the amount of \$480,154 and the related Budget Amendment increasing the project to match the award.
- authorize the addition of the following position which was requested and budgeted, but not approved during the budget process: one (1) Legal Assistant I at a Grade 4 in the State's Attorney's Office, as classified by the Director of Human Resources, pursuant to review and process, to be effective for the period of the grant and subject to grant funding.

The BOCC deferred action on the above items until the next meeting, November 10, 2009.

3. Dept. of Human Resources *(Sue Sabo, Director)*

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve the insurance premium holiday, that will include three pay periods beginning the last pay period of November and ending the second pay period of December 2009, as presented by staff. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Development Review Forum *(Robin Guyther, Chairperson; Bill Higgs, past chair)*

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve the By-laws of the Development Review Forum as amended, with an Effective Date of November 3, 2009. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Dept. of Human Services and Walden-Sierra, Inc.

*(Bennett Connelly, Dir., Dept. of Human Services;
Dr. Kathleen O'Brien, Exec. Dir., Walden-Sierra, Inc.)*

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Community Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Activities FFY (Federal Fiscal Year) 2010-2011 Grant Application, Project OGM/RPG 10-016, from the Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) on behalf the Department of Human Services, in the

amount of \$22,000 to support sexual assault awareness and prevention efforts in the community. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Dept. of Economic and Community Dev. and Dept. of Recreation and Parks

(Hans Welch, Business Dev. Mgr., DECD;

Rebecca Deprey, Administrative Coord., DECD/Tourism)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Water Trail Adventures in St. Mary's County Mini-Grant Award, Project MD1048, from the Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium on behalf of Department of Economic and Community Development Tourism, for costs to be used towards printing of a St. Mary's County water trails brochure, in the amount of \$1,000, and also to sign the related Budget Amendment that includes increasing the project budget by using \$1,000 of the Supplemental Reserve. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Dept. of Public Works and Transportation *(George Erichsen, P.E., Director)*

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Public Works Agreement Addendum for Woods of Rue Purchase Subdivision, located in the 8th Election District with an Expiration Date of November 1, 2010. Motion carried 5-0.

Claim Letters for a Public Works Agreement and for Grading Permit No. 07-53

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Claim Letter the amount of \$3,107,700 to the Bank of America, N.A. for a Public Works Agreement issued for the Grandview Haven Subdivision, located in the Fourth (4th) Election District and based on the Department's Inspection Report dated October 6, 2009 and certified letter dated October 8, 2009 indicating that claim proceedings would be started on the Letter of Credit, should it become necessary. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President, should it become necessary, to sign the Claim Letter the amount of \$138,300 to the Bank of America, N.A. for Grading Permit No. 07-53 issued for the Grandview Haven Subdivision. Located in the Fourth (4th) Election District and based on the Department's Inspection Report dated October 9, 2009 and certified letter dated October 9, 2009 indicating that claim proceedings would be started on the Letter of Credit. Motion carried 5-0.

It was discussed that the motions authorize Commissioner President Russell to sign both claim letters, if and when his signature is needed, within the next thirty days. Mr. Erichsen said he was optimistic that the two parties involved are going to reach agreement (negating the need to further process the claim letters).

8. Dept. of Aging *(Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Peggy Maio, Fiscal Supervisor)*

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to execute the Notification of Grant Award for the FY2010 Title III Federal Grants from the Maryland Department of Aging on behalf of the St. Mary's County Department of Aging, to provide various programs and services to the seniors of St. Mary's County, in the amount of \$243,188, and to sign the related Budget Amendment to increase Project US1002, US1004, US1005, US1033, and US1009. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Board Appointment (*John Savich*)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to appoint Mary Ann Murray as the community representative to the St. Mary's County Retiree Benefit Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term vacated by Mr. Candela, which expires December 31, 2010. Motion carried 5-0.

BOCC MACO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2010

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to appoint Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr. as the 2010 MACo Legislative Committee Member and Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell as the alternate member. Motion carried 5-0.

MARCEY HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: PROGRAM UPDATE

Present: Daniel Slade, Chairperson
Joyce Dyson, Board member

In addition to Mr. Slade and Ms. Dyson, several members of the Marcey House Board were in attendance.

Mr. Slade stated that with the formation of the Department of Human Services (HS), which was created to bring agencies and departments that provide core human services under one umbrella, the Marcey House Board was defined as an "Advisory Board," reporting to HS for "reporting purposes only." Referencing a March 2008 memo to the BOCC, and on behalf of the Marcey House Board of Directors, Mr. Slade expressed concern that as an advisory board, the Marcey House Board will lose some of its authority or power.

Mr. Slade stated the Marcey House Board of Directors was contacted by the County Attorney relative to the need to update their bylaws; and today, on behalf of the Board of Directors, requested BOCC direction. He said no comment has been received on their draft revision.

There was discussion about organizational structure, services, role of the Marcey House Board of Directors and funding. When questioned by the BOCC about what has changed

under the title or definition as an “advisory board,” no specifics were provided.

With the emphasis placed on providing specifics and clarification, there was BOCC consensus on establishing a working group to address concerns and determine a solution or options.

Commissioner Dement left the meeting at 3:14 pm.

DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES: PRESENT HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION PLAN FOR ADOPTION

Present: Bennett Connelly, Director, Dept. of Human Services
Cynthia Brown, Sr. Mgr., Dept. of Human Services

The three-year strategic plan was developed by the Department of Human Services staff in partnership with the Homeless Prevention Board and was presented to the Board of County Commissioners in draft form on October 27, 2009.

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and sign the Three-year Strategic Plan Addressing Homelessness in St. Mary’s County as presented by staff. Motion carried 4-0.

**DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION:
REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT DRAFT LOCAL ORDINANCE TO
THE MD DEPT. OF THE ENVIRONMENT RE NEW MARYLAND
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION**

Present: George Erichsen, Director

As a follow-up to the October 27, 2009, presentation to the BOCC, Mr. Erichsen requested authorization to submit the draft Stormwater Management, Grading, Erosion, and Sediment Control Ordinance to the Maryland Department of the Environment for their review in accordance with the established November 11, 2009, state-mandated deadline. Mr. Erichsen added that submitting the draft ordinance, considered a working document, to MDE does not implement anything at this time. The County has until May 4, 2010, to adopt an ordinance addressing local stormwater management. Mr. Erichsen said he will seek Planning Commission review and recommendations and will invite MDE to present a formal recommendation to the County.

Commissioner Mattingly expressed concern that the state had two years to address the legislation, while the BOCC had only two weeks, and requested adding the following text to the cover letter: *Due to the current economic environment, we feel that consideration of implementation of new regulations and added engineering and design costs warrants some consideration, as we have done in our local approval process in St. Mary’s County, with respect to the implementation date of this regulation.*

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize staff to submit the Draft Stormwater Management, Grading, Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance to the Maryland Department of the Environment for their review in accordance with the November 11, 2009, state-mandated deadline, with modification to the draft letter presented by Mr. Erichsen as stated in my remarks. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner President Russell and County Administrator John Savich were absent from approximately 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM for a conference call with Governor O'Malley for an H1N1 flu update. Vice President Mattingly chaired the meeting during this time.

**DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION:
PRESENT ST. JEROME CREEK STUDY**

Present: Zane Rettstatt, DPW&T Project Engineer
Tony Clark, Corps of Engineers, Project Mgr.
Bill Grosskopf, Offshore & Coastal Technologies, Inc., East Coast
Ed Fulford, Andrews, Miller & Associates, Senior Associate

In August 2008, the BOCC approved a cost share agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers for the St. Jerome Creek Jetty Study.

The presenters provided an overview of alternatives for jetty design with consideration comparisons and preliminary costs for each. It is anticipated that the existing site for dredging will be sufficient to support the project and is under lease until November 2010.

Mr. Rettstatt and Mr. Clark reviewed project milestones, including recommending a plan to the Corps of Engineers and developing a Project Partnership Agreement. The Project Partnership Agreement draft, which allocates funding as 90% federal and 10% non-federal, should be completed in April 2010. The design and implementation phase is targeted for 2011.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION: PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Presenter: Robert Gibbs, Chair, Historic Preservation Commission

A proclamation and Historic Preservation Commission award was presented to Christmas in April St. Mary's County for restoration of Point Lookout Lighthouse and Drayden School. Howard Thompson, President, and Mary Ann Chasen, Executive Director, accepted the proclamation and award on behalf of Christmas in April.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

The Commissioners highlighted upcoming events and those attended over the past week as well as personal interest items.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 4:35 pm and reconvened at approximately 6:40 pm.

**JOINT BOCC AND SOUTHERN MD DELEGATION PUBLIC MEETING
RE 2010 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS**

Present: David Weiskopf, Deputy County Attorney

Also in attendance: Delegate John Bohanan
Delegate Anthony O'Donnell
Delegate John F. Wood, Jr.

The meeting commenced at 6:40 pm. The purpose of the Joint Public Meeting was to provide an opportunity for the Commissioners, the Delegation, and public to hear presentations and provide comments on the 2010 Legislative Proposals. Seventeen proposals were submitted for 2010.

Delegates Bohanan, O'Donnell, and Wood each provided opening comments that emphasized current and future budget challenges. The state has cut three billion and additional cuts are anticipated to be announced during the upcoming legislative session in January.

Mr. Weiskopf reviewed each proposal and called on the submitters for their presentations. After the presentations and Board/Delegation comments/discussion, public comments were taken.

PROPOSAL #1

To provide tax incentives for current homeowners who reduce their carbon footprint by installing alternative energy sources such as solar, wind and/or geo-thermal systems.

Proposed by Dr. Patricia Dunlap

It was clarified by Mr. Weiskopf that the authority exists (legislation passed in 2006), just a matter of adopting locally.

Presenter: Dr. Patricia Dunlap, 17745 White House Dr., Tall Timbers, MD 20684

Public Comments:

Micah Reese, 17617 Saint Inigoes Rd., Saint Inigoes, MD 20684

Mr. Reese said that he was in favor of alternate energy sources, but feels it's inappropriate to use tax incentives (neighbors tax dollars) to help pay for the installation of solar panels and windmills.

Mike Thompson, 43865 Thompson Farm Lane, Hollywood, MD 20636

- Provided testimony in support of the proposal.
- Clarified tax credit is not tax that you pay.

- Suggested simplifying the Solar MD Grant process (long waiting list, took four months to approve after submittal).

PROPOSAL #2

To encourage financial institutions to provide lower interest loans for green construction and green add-ons to already existing buildings that will be built to specifications resulting in a low carbon footprint (statewide).

Proposed by Dr. Patricia Dunlap

Presenter: Dr. Patricia Dunlap, 17745 White House Dr., Tall Timbers, MD 20684

Public Comments:

Micah Reese, 17617 Saint Inigoes Rd., Saint Inigoes, MD 20684

Signed in as wishing to speak, but declined during the public hearing.

PROPOSAL #3

To provide tax incentives for individuals and businesses that install wind farms on their property for use in producing electricity.

Proposed by Dr. Patricia Dunlap

Presenter: Dr. Patricia Dunlap, 17745 White House Dr., Tall Timbers, MD 20684

- Clarified that this proposal really falls under Proposal #1 (the County already has authority for wind energy systems) and is intended to encourage wind farms.
- Attended SMECO meeting about a year ago; they encouraged farmers to put wind farms on their property.
- Commissioner Mattingly cautioned about ramifications; e.g., impact on Patuxent River and the economy.
- Commissioner Jarboe asked for specifics about what kind of tax incentive. Dr. Dunlap responded that would have to be determined.

Public Comments:

Rich Johnson, 19026 Russell Rd., Valley Lee, MD 20647

- Supported getting the local ordinance passed for wind energy systems.
- Supports the base; there are places where wind farms could exist (map with proposal indicates good wind source).

Mr. Micah Reese interjected that he feels the map indicates poor wind source.

PROPOSAL #4

To reduce maintenance costs incurred by the State of Maryland by planting over grassy areas that need mowing with native wild flowers and meadow plants, which would reduce the fleet of mowers, weed-eaters, etc. and reemploy workers to other maintenance needs and to the green building trades (statewide).

Proposed by Dr. Patricia Dunlap

Presenter: Dr. Patricia Dunlap, 17745 White House Dr., Tall Timbers, MD 20684

- Added that Chancellor's Run has nice plantings.
- North Carolina has done and it's very attractive.

Public Comments: none

PROPOSAL #5

To limit Mortgage Interest deductions to \$10,000 and property taxes to \$2,500 for Maryland Income Tax purposes.

Proposed by Tom Hanrahan

Presenter: Tom Hanrahan, Lexington Park, MD

Mr. Hanrahan clarified a cap should be considered, at some amount; e.g., should not be subsidizing expensive homes on the water or 'mcmansions'.

Public Comments:

Micah Reese, 17617 Saint Inigoes Rd., Saint Inigoes, MD 20684

Signed in as wishing to speak, but declined during the public hearing.

Bill Rymer, 13391 Esperanza Dr., Lexington Park, MD 20653

Mr. Rymer said that he has lived in St. Mary's County most of his adult life. He said that he is outraged over his property tax (over \$5,000/yr.) and that not being able to deduct property tax from income tax would be insult to injury. Mr. Rymer said that he is not wealthy, two family resources were combined.

Bob Schultz, 46310 Lore Ct., Lexington Park, MD 20653

Mr. Schultz provided testimony in opposition to the proposal, stating it would be unfair and cautioning what would be next.

PROPOSAL #6

To de-fund abortion coverage with state Medicaid dollars.

Proposed by Tom Hanrahan

Presenter: Tom Hanrahan, Lexington Park, MD

Delegates Bohanan, O'Donnell, and Wood each commented on the proposal.

Public Comments: none

PROPOSAL #7

To change allocation of state's electoral votes reward margin of victory.

Proposed by Tom Hanrahan

Presenter: Tom Hanrahan, Lexington Park, MD

Public Comments:

Micah Reese, 17617 Saint Inigoes Rd., Saint Inigoes, MD 20684

Signed in as wishing to speak, but declined during the public hearing.

PROPOSAL #8

To clarify that licensed registered nurses, Reserve Officers' Training Corp (ROTC) teachers, and supervisors who do not hold a teaching certificate will be included in the bargaining unit currently designated for teachers, administrators, and supervisors who do hold a teaching certificate.

Proposed by Liz Purcell Leskinen and Wanda Twigg

Presenters:

Liz Purcell Leskinen, Fairgrounds Road, California MD 20619

Wanda Twigg, Hill and Dale Drive, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

There was extensive discussion on the proposal.

- It was clarified that there are three (3) ROTC teachers, 27 nurses (one at each school), and 25 supervisors.
- There would be no change to the Board of Education and no fiscal impact; (school is 'on-board' with proposal).

Public Comments:

Karla DeSelms, 23048 Pine Needle Ct., California, MD 20619

Ms. DeSelms identified herself as a nurse and asked for support with including (positions) in the bargaining unit.

PROPOSALS #9 AND #10

#9 To provide that the Education Association of St. Mary's County could negotiate with the Board of Education of St. Mary's to negotiate a provision that all employees who decline to join EASMC will pay their fair share of the costs of benefits that they receive.

Proposed by Liz Purcell Leskinen and Wanda Twigg

#10 To provide that the Collective Education Association of St. Mary's County could negotiate with the Board of Education of St. Mary's to negotiate a provision that all employees who decline to join CEASMC will pay their fair share of the costs of benefits that they receive.

Proposed by Liz Purcell Leskinen and Wanda Twigg

Just prior to the meeting, a copy of letter dated October 7, 2009, to David Weiskopf from Liz Purcell Leskinen was provided to the Board and Delegation by Mr. Weiskopf.

Presenters:Liz Purcell Leskinen , Fairgrounds Road, California MD 20619Wanda Twigg, Hill and Dale Drive, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

There was extensive discussion on the proposals. Ms. Leskinen said proposal #9 is identical to # 10. Discussion included the following clarifications/topics:

- No fiscal impact
- Required by law to negotiate; can choose not to be members (not pay dues)
- Provided examples benefits; e.g., salary increase, cost of binding arbitration, advocacy representation.
- Calvert and Charles counties have (Charles County grandfathered bill for current employees; Calvert did not)
- Can only be in one bargaining unit (exclusive agency)
- EASMC membership fees - \$620/year (CEASMC is less, \$67 - \$430/year); money is used for services provided (not to make money)
- Audits are conducted

Del. O'Donnell questioned allowing waivers, which was not responded to favorably by the presenters.

Public Comments:Karl Pence, 42539 Henry Ct., Hollywood, MD 20636

Mr. Pence provided testimony in support of both proposals, specifically relative to perspective employees. Mr. Pence said he was the MSGA president when the accounting procedure was implemented. He said that he didn't have too much to add. He initially thought the process was elaborate; however, he was surprised at the percentage of time that was chargeable.

PROPOSAL #11

To establish a limit on the number of Class A (off-sale) liquor licenses.

Proposed by St. Mary's County Licensed Beverage Association

Presenter: David Dent, 44584 Tall Timbers Rd., Tall Timbers, MD

Mr. Dent high-lighted the proposal as presented. It was clarified that this is the same proposal as presented last year.

- Summer study – proposal did not go to summer study. Summer study implies the Bill is dead.
- 1,350 is what Charles County has (Class A license with an off-sale privilege for each unit of 1,350 people in each election district) – *Del. Wood wrote Charles County legislation.*
- There are 154 license holders in the County; 42 have Class A license.

Del. Wood was concern about how this would impact the northern end of the county and small business. (Proposal initialized out of concern for Great Mills Rd.)

Public Comments: none, other than Mr. Dent.

PROPOSAL #12

To add a Corrections Officer's Bill of Rights for St. Mary's County.
Proposed by Tim Cameron

Presenter: Sheriff Tim Cameron

- Cecil County has; no other counties have (a Corrections Officer's Bill of Rights).
- Supports continuity and consistency (Sheriff's deputies have); collaborated with Sue Sabo, Director of HR.

Public Comments: none

PROPOSAL #13

To revise Article 19, Section 37 to set December 31 as the deadline for St. Mary's to file its financial report with the Department of Legislative Services.
Proposed by Department of Finance

Presenter: Elaine Kramer, CFO

Ms. Kramer presented the details about the proposal. Last year, three counties took forward legislation as individual; i.e., Howard, Frederick, and most recently, Wicomico. Currently, a deadline of January 1 is set for all counties with a population greater than 400,000; counties with a population less than 400,000 are required to file on or before November 1.

Public Comments: none

PROPOSAL #14

To request authority to issue \$25 million in public facilities bonds.
Proposed by Department of Finance

Presenter: Elaine Kramer, CFO

Ms. Kramer clarified that the authority being requested is estimated based on planned projects through FY2010. Ms. Kramer provided a form "FY2010 Approved Budget Book, Schedule of Bond Financing for Projects", with RECAP by project. St. Mary's Bond Rating is AA.

Board and Delegation discussion ensued regarding economic and budget issues and projects listed under "Recap by project;" specifically Leonardtown Library and FDR Neighborhood Connector (Roses Place).

Public Comments:

Rich Johnson, 19026 Russell Rd., Valley Lee, MD 20647

Specifically commenting about the plans to build a new Leonardtown Library, Mr. Johnson provided testimony in opposition to the proposal (partial rejection; recommending deferring building a new library and was more supportive of renovating the existing library). Mr. Johnson commented that the County currently has \$40 million in bond authority.

(It was clarified that total cost to build a new library is forecasted to cost \$15.9 million; and to renovate/build on to the existing library is forecasted to cost \$11.9 million, not \$25 million and \$20-23 million, respectively, as mentioned during the discussion.)

Bill Rymer, 13391 Esperanza Dr., Lexington Park, MD 20653

Commenting about the currently \$40 million in bond authority, Mr. Rymer provided testimony in opposition to the proposal. Mr. Rymer commented about aging infrastructure (water mains) and said Esperanza Drive has not been paved in 30 years.

Randy Guy, 39398 Ledford Dr., Clements, MD 20624

Mr. Guy provided testimony in opposition to the proposal, specifically relative to the new Leonardtown Library.

Danny Morris, 41925 Gibson Dr., Mechanicsville, MD

Relative to budget cuts, Mr. Morris said we need to pay for (fund) what we need, not what we want. Expressing concern for judges releasing inmates, he said the jail expansion is a need, and it will need to be adequately operated and maintained. Mr. Morris also commented about the school in Leonardtown needs to be worked on.

PROPOSAL #15

To extend House Bill 623, Chapter 336, by passing an extension of the termination date to June 30, 2015, which will allow the current senior tax credit program to continue without interruption.

Proposed by Mary Ruth Horton

Presenter: Mary Ruth Horton, 44173 St. Andrews Lane, California, MD

Mr. Weiskopf clarified that the law had a sunset provision that was set to expire next year. State legislation has passed for local governments to enact their Sr. Property Tax Credit program (that doesn't have a sunset provision). Mr. Weiskopf said this proposal was left in as an "awareness" topic and because Sen. Dyson had a question relative to the matter. Del. Bohanan added that Bill 781 passed modifying the age from 70 to 65 and a local ordinance will be required to change the age for the county's program.

Public Comments: none

Proposal #16

To enact a "keep right except to pass" law in Maryland.

Proposed by John Vanatta

Presenter: none

Public Comments:

Glenn Weder, 44462 Clarkes Landing Rd., Hollywood, MD 20636

Mr. Weder said the proposal may be appropriate for interstates, not for Route 5 and Route 235; will be difficult to make a left turn.

A letter was submitted by Mr. Glen Weder in support of treating cell phones/PDAs/Blackberries, etc. as hazardous materials while operating a motor vehicle and requires that they be placed in the trunk. Mr. Weder's letter also supports stiffening the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) charges to mandatory six to nine month license suspension; mandatory one to two year jail term for DUI involving injury and mandatory twenty year jail term for DUI involving death.

Public Comments - other:

Kenneth Boothe, 46138 Boothe Farm Lane

Mr. Boothe commented that several of the proposals deal with the subject of a tax credit, adding that he sees that as a symptom of a breakdown in the system and a reinforcement of the need to cut spending.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County for November 3, 2009, adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

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