The meeting of the Alcohol Beverage Board of St. Mary's County was held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 1:00 P.M. in the County Commissioners Conference Room, Chesapeake Building, Leonardtown, Maryland.

Moses Saldaña, Chairman
Linda Palchinsky, Vice Chairman
Aaron Mathis, Member
Betty Currie, Member
Kevin Hall, Member
James Tanavage, Attorney
Tamara Hildebrand, Board Administrator
Suzan Whilden, Sr. Office Specialist
Garland Thompson, Inspector
Cpl. James Stone, Alcohol Enforcement Officer

Chairman Saldaña called the meeting to order and introduced the Board to the audience. Chairman Saldaña also wished everyone a Happy New Year. Member Hall moved to approve the minutes of December 11, 2014 and it was seconded by Vice-Chairman Palchinsky. Motion carried.

Chairman Saldaña announced that there is a sign in sheet in the front of the room for anyone who would like to testify. The Chairman also thanked Fran Hammett for her time as Recording Secretary and expressed that Fran enjoyed her time working with the Board. The Chairman explained the application process and welcomed anyone who will speak on behalf of an application.

New Business:
- Applications:

**Blue Wind** - Application of Dana Rebarchick to transfer Blue Wind Gourmet (TBD Restaurant, LLC) Class B-BWL license from Robert Plant & t/a Blue Wind Gourmet (MGR, Inc), 22803 Gunston Dr., California, MD 20619.

Robert Plant and Dana Rebarchick appeared before the Board for the transfer of Blue Wind Gourmet. Parties were sworn in. Ms. Rebarchick stated that she is purchasing the business from Mr. Plant and all operations would remain the same. Inspector Thompson asked if the storage area would remain the same and she replied that it would. Member Currie made the motion for approval and was seconded by member Mathis. Motion carried.
Ridgell’s Bay Mart - Application of Joseph M. Ridgell & Karen D. Ridgell to transfer Bay Mart & Deli (Bay Mart Wine & Spirits, LLC) Class A-1 BWL license from Brian Patrick Gass & t/a Ridgell’s Bay Mart, 16591 Three Notch Rd., Ridge, MD 20680.

Joseph and Karen Ridgell appeared before the Board and were sworn in. They were recommended as first time owners to attend RAST. Member Hall motioned for a 60 day conditional approval pending the Fire Marshall approval, Use and Occupancy and Traders License. Member Mathis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Oga’s Asian Cuisine - Application of Ting Yan Zeng to purchase a Class B (restaurant) BW license & t/a Oga’s Asian Cuisine (Oga’s Asian Cuisine, LLC), 22745 Washington St., Leonardtown, MD 20650.

Ting Yan Zeng appeared before the Board with his attorney Daniel Slade and was sworn in. Mr. Zeng was the former owner of Oga’s and will now act as resident licensee for the new owner. Vice-Chair Palchinsky motioned for approval and was seconded by Member Currie. Motion carried.


Waqar Qureshi and Shashidhar Bhetwal appeared with their attorney Michael Davis. Parties were sworn in and a correction was made to the application of the address of Mr. Bhetwal. It was stated that Mr. Qureshi is TAMS and RAST certified. Attorney Davis states there is a petition of opposition and he has a petition of support labeled EXHIBIT 1. Chairman Saldaña states that the cut-off time has expired and discusses this with Mrs. Hildebrand to clarify but the petition was accepted as evidence. Attorney Davis explains Mr. Qureshi’s business background and Mr. Qureshi explains his hardship and his need to change the business from a restaurant to the desired liquor store. Chairman Saldaña points out the number of already established liquor stores in the area. Cpl. Stone stated between August of 2013 and December of 2014, that there were 113 alcohol related citations in the Great Mills area. Chairman Saldaña reiterated the safety issues and discussed the opposition e-mail sent to the Board from one of the County Commissioners.

Persons expressing a wish to testify in support or protest were then called to testify. Willie Lennon, Frances Hicks and Willy Graft were all sworn and all stated they felt that adding another liquor store on Great Mills Road would only add to the crime, peddling and vagrancy that is already a problem. Member Mathis made a motion to deny the application due to lack of public need and desire for the license, number and location of licenses in the proposed area and potential negative impact on the general health, safety and welfare of the community. Member Hall seconded the motion. Chairman Saldaña asked for any discussion. Vice Chairman Palchinsky reiterated that there is no need for another liquor store in the Great Mills Road area. Both Members Mathis and Hall concurred. The Chairman expressed his opinion that the Board would be doing an injustice to the County to allow another Class A license on that road. Motion carried.
**Premise Changes:**

**Chaptico Market** ‒ Ronald & Gwendolyn Tennyson - Requesting extension of main premise by approx. 1500 sq. ft. for new kitchen area & upper level storage.

Gwendolyn Tennyson was sworn in and a letter from Mr. Tennyson was presented for Gwendolyn to speak in his behalf. Mrs. Tennyson was unaware she had to alert the Board that they had put on an addition to their market if they were not storing alcohol in the area until Inspector Thompson brought it to their attention. Member Hall motioned to approve the changes and was seconded by Member Currie. Motion carried.

**Stoney’s at Clarkes Landing** ‒ Eugenia Cousineaux, Louis Phillip Stone III, & Catherine Bailey York - Correcting original application submission to include two stand-alone walk-in boxes for food & beer.

Mr. Stone and Ms. York were sworn in and a letter was presented for Mr. Stone to speak on behalf of Eugenia Cousineaux. Mr. Stone stated that two walk-in boxes had been there, although they had replaced one of them. They assumed that the old boxes were part of the previous owners licensed premise and neglected to add them on their application and were now correcting that. Mrs. Hildebrand reminded them that the boxes must be kept locked. Member Currie made a motion for approval and was seconded by Vice Chairman Palchinsky. Motion carried.

**Officer/Member/Trade Name changes:**

**Pegg Road Shell** - Deleting Joseph Ashworth

Member Mathis made a motion for approval and was seconded by Member Currie. Motion carried.

**Ruby Tuesday** - Deleting David A. Syarto & David Strong; adding Donald C. Grauel & Edward J. Gillis

Member Hall made a motion for approval and was seconded by Vice Chairman Palchinsky. Motion carried.

**Other Business:**

**Board Administrator – Tamara Hildebrand**

Mrs. Hildebrand presented the budget for FY16 to the Board for approval. The only change from FY15 was the transferring of $50.00 from the Conference account to the Membership account to cover the increase in MALA annual dues. No changes to the Grant. Member Mathis made a motion for approval and was seconded by Vice Chairman Palchinsky. Motion carried.
Mrs. Hildebrand stated that the Renewal Packages for the 2015 licenses would be mailed out to existing licensees on 1/9/15.

- **Alcohol Enforcement Coordinator- Cpl. James Stone**

  Cpl. Stone, being out ill for most of December had no monthly report for the Board

- **Board Inspector – Garland Thompson**

  Inspector Thompson did 11 inspections and 3 follow-ups for the month of December and attended the Defensive Driving Training required by the County.

- **St. Mary’s County Licensed Beverage Association- Dave Dent**

  Mr. Dent appeared before the Board and informed them that the SMCLBA had not had their January meeting as of this date and that it was postponed to January 13th. He stated that the SMCLBA look forward to working with Delegate Tony O’Donnell again and all the newly elected Senator and delegates during this legislative session.

- **Community Alcohol Coalition- ABSENT**

  Member Mathis made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Member Hall Motion carried.

  Respectfully submitted:

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  Suzan Whilden, Recording Secretary

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  Moses Saldaña, Chairman