

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
CHESEAPEAKE BUILDING
Tuesday, April 7, 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.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Check Register for checks dated April 7, 2009, as presented. Motion carried 4-0, 1 abstain (Raley).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to adopt the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, March 31, 2009, as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamations were presented in recognition of the following:

- Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Archeology Month

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agenda for April 21, 2009 (no BOCC meeting April 14)
2. **St. Mary's County Health Dept.** (*Daryl Calvano, Dir., Environmental Health*)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to relinquish the Board of County Commissioners signatory authority of the "Supplemental Inspection and Monitoring of Sludge Utilization Activities in St.

Mary's County" Memorandum of Agreement to the Health Officer or the Director of Environmental Health, St. Mary's County Health Department, and to sign the letter of consent addressed to the Maryland Department of the Environment. Motion carried 5-0

3. **St. Mary's County Public Schools** (*Brad Clements, Chief Op. Officer; Kim Howe, Coordinating Supervisor of Capital Planning and Construction*)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve the transfer of \$700,336 to the County reserve capital improvements program account and \$110,000 to the security vestibule account, from funds from various completed school system capital improvements projects, as approved by the Board of Education of St. Mary's County on March 11, 2009, and as presented by staff, and to sign the letter of consent evidencing this action. Motion carried 5-0.

4. **Dept. of Aging** (*Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; and Peggy Maio, Fiscal Supv.*)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Notification of Grant Award revising the award for FY09 Senior Care from \$113,783 to the amount of \$111,886, and to sign the related Budget Amendment reducing project revenues and expenses by \$1,897 to be in alignment with the revised grant award amount. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **Dept. of Public Safety** (*Dave Zylak, Director*)

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to re-sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the MD Emergency Management Agency, Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's Counties regarding the FY2007 Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program for the expansion of the National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) channels. Motion carried 5-0
Re-sign due to specific wording (administrative) changes; previously approved by the BOCC on 9/30/2008

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the Development Review Application allowing the MD State Dept. of Information Technology to proceed with the permitting process for the Valley Lee Public Safety Radio Tower. Motion carried 5-0.

6. **Department of Human Services** (*Bennett Connelly, Director; Julie Ohman, Mental Health Coordinator*)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the FY2010 Core Service Agency Services/Administrative Funds Memorandum of Understanding with the Mental

Hygiene Administration and the related contract proposal documents. Motion carried 5-0.

- 7. Department of Public Works and Transportation** (*Richard Tarr, Solid Waste Mgr; Mary Ann Chassen, Christmas in April*)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and sign a Resolution providing for the waiving of tipping fees for the 2009 Christmas in April project. Motion carried 5-0.

- 8. County Administrator** (*John Savich; Jeannett Cudmore, Dep. Dir., Finance*)

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to direct staff to prepare documents for the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department's loan request in the amount of \$350,000 for the purchase of a replacement Tiller Ladder Truck and to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign those documents after they are prepared by staff and to sign the letter of consent evidencing this action. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONERS' TIME

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

Commissioner Jarboe asked if any of the Commissioners will support his motion to consolidate Land Use and Growth Management with the Economic and Community Development, with Bob Schaller as the Director of the consolidated department and Phil Shire as Office Manager of the Land Use Division.

LUNCH AND UNIVERSITY OF MD COOP UPDATE

Beginning at 12:30 PM, the Board attended a luncheon and update on University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Programming in St. Mary's County, held in Room 14 of the Potomac Building, Governmental Center Campus.

Those scheduled to attend included: Ben Beale, Co. Ext. Dir., St. Mary's Extension Office, MCE-UMD; Dr. Cheng-I Wei, Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of MD; Dr. Nick Place; Associate Dean and Assoc. Director, MD Cooperative Extension; St. Mary's Extension Advisory Board; and St. Mary's Extension Office faculty and staff.

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING: TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR THE LOCATION OF FACILITIES ON THE HAYDEN PROPERTY

Commissioner Russell opened the meeting at 6:30 PM, welcomed those in attendance, and explained the purpose of the informational meeting; i.e., to discuss proposals for the location of facilities on the Hayden Farm Property.

The Hayden Farm Property (property) consists of approximately 180 acres, is zoned Residential Low Density and Rural Preservation Density, and is located on Rt. 245 in Leonardtown.

Highlights of Mr. John Savich, County Administrator's comments:

- Emphasized the meeting provides a venue to: (1) gain more information and have a dialog to assist the BOCC in making a decision regarding the expansion of the Leonardtown Library; i.e., to build a new facility and where to locate it, or to renovate the existing facility; and (2) discuss potential uses of the property.
- Provided background regarding the purchase of the property. The property was purchased for \$5,259,500. It was emphasized that no property tax or income tax revenues were used to purchase the property. The funding source was a land acquisition project, first established in FY2006, consisting of school impact fees and transfer taxes.
- Recalled Mr. George Erichsen's (Director, Dept. of Public Works and Transportation) BOCC presentation in February regarding options for the Leonardtown Library that ranged in costs (shared by the County and State) from \$15 to \$21 million.

Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Superintendent, St. Mary's County Public Schools, provided an introduction for the presentation of the proposed Master Plan for the property. The master plan study stemmed from a planning charette held on February 26, 2009.

Mr. Brad Clements, Chief Operating Officer, St. Mary's County Public Schools, provided a PowerPoint overview presentation; i.e., Master Plan for the Hayden Property. The master plan was described as a concept document, encompassing stakeholder aspirations and preliminary designs for best meeting those aspirations (based on information gathered at the charette, program relationships and integration, and property considerations). The master plan design includes an illustration with proposed sites for an elementary school, a middle school (eight to ten years out), and a new facility for the Leonardtown Library.

Discussion during BOCC questions and comments:

- Have been in contact with the Town of Leonardtown and residents; connectivity with Clarks Rest development (*proposing vehicle and pedestrian*).
- Have not been in contact with the State regarding highway changes (e.g., new construction, traffic light installation) because design is preliminary (conceptual).
- BOCC has not made decision for Leonardtown Library; however, assuming one entrance (vehicular, not school buses); potential concern for traffic relative to evening library use, athletic events, etc. – *Design was drafted by engineers; however, will need to do a traffic study moving forward.*

- Elected Board of Education officers did not participate in the study (and were not present at the public informational meeting).
- Concern was raised about responsibility for cleaning up an oil spill (environmental assessment) – *Will work with the Board, not sure of the status.*

At 7:06 PM, Commissioner President Russell opened the meeting for public comment.

Public Comment

Joan Springer, 44738 Springer Road, Valley Lee, MD 20692

On behalf of the St. Mary's County Library and the Library Board of Trustees, Ms. Springer provided testimony in favor building a new library on the Hayden property. Ms. Springer said there was Board consensus (vote taken at previous meeting, all are in agreement), and factoring in the study completed and presented to the BOCC in 2007, it will be more cost effective to build a new facility than to renovate.

George Billiter (and son), 20838 Waterside Dr., Leonardtown, MD 20650

Citing consistency for patrons, Mr. Billiter (and son) provided testimony in favor of keeping the library at the same area.

Norman A. Norris, P. O. Box 391, Leonardtown, MD

Mr. Norris referred to projects in close proximity (all within one mile) affecting Rt. 245; i.e., Wellness Center, hospital expansion (52% increase), and the jail expansion (increase to 525 from 245) and expressed concern for traffic (current and anticipated) and the need to complete a transportation plan.

Paul Kelley, 41885 Medley's Neck Rd, Leonardtown, MD

Mr. Kelley provided testimony in favor of a new facility for the Leonardtown Library at the Hayden property site. He said it will be more economical to build and encourages use of 'informational centers'. Mr. Kelley said he believes this will also increase property value and attractiveness; e.g., relative to community support and BRAC considerations.

Richard Rutkowski, 23534 Belviar Dr., Leonardtown, MD

Mr. Rutkowski provided testimony 'seconding' Mr. Norris' testimony regarding traffic and traffic flow concerns.

Mary G. Bailey, 23538 Hollywood Rd., Leonardtown, MD

Ms. Bailey said she lives off Rt. 245 across from the Hayden property. She expressed concern for traffic and asked what's going to be done; currently may take five minutes to pull out of driveway because of traffic coming both ways. Also, Ms. Bailey provided testimony requesting an ice skating rink be included as a viable recreation use for the property. St. Mary's County has two ice hockey teams; Ryken and Chopticon or Leonardtown.

Grant Graessle (and son, Arthur), 23251 Oak Crest Ln., California, MD

Mr. Graessle said he is an avid user of the tri-county library system and said he feels the County has outgrown the facility in Leonardtown. Mr. Graessle provided testimony in favor of a new facility, with expanded capabilities, to serve all members of the community, from old to young.

Dan Burris, member of Leonardtown Town Council

Mr. Burris said he is a resident of Leonardtown and a member of the Town Council. He said a new comprehensive plan includes looking at the traffic flow and alternate traffic routes. Mr. Burris said the Town Council Board feels a new library is more appropriate.

Leslie Roberts, member of Leonardtown Town Council

Ms. Roberts applauded the people that worked on the Master Plan for the Hayden Property. She said that she is a middle school teacher and knows there is a lot to work out, lot of questions. Ms. Roberts said that she appreciates the 'forward thinking' to fund and obtain the property and feels this is a good example of 'smart growth'.

Steven Raley, Leonardtown, MD

Mr. Raley provided testimony in support of the proposed property use, but cautioned taking a serious look at the infrastructure and being sensitive to property residents.

Tom Collier, member of Leonardtown Town Council

Mr. Collier provided testimony in support of proposed use for the Hayden property; but must ensure infrastructure issues and needs are addressed.

Commissioner President Russell closed the meeting for public comment at 7:24 PM, and subsequently closed the meeting at 7:25 PM.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to adjourn.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

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