

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
Tuesday, December 12, 2006**

Present: Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell
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 9:00 AM.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, 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 December 5, 2006, as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION: MS. IVA CAIN, STATE'S ATTORNEY'S

OFFICE

Joined by members of the State's Attorney's Office, the Board of County Commissioners presented Ms. Iva Cain with a Proclamation and gift in celebration of her upcoming retirement on January 1, 2007.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: PRESENTATION ON PLANS FOR RT. 246, STREETScape

Present: Robin Finnacom, Executive Director, Community Development Corporation

Ms. Finnacom presented an update on the Streetscape Project to improve the 1.4 mile roadway section between St. Mary's Square and Coral Drive. The project is currently at 65% of the design phase and targeted for construction during the calendar year 2008.

Referencing a displayed aerial picture exhibit of the current roadway section, along with a proposed design rendition, Ms. Finnacom provided an overview of the safety and aesthetic improvements planned for the project. These exhibits will be placed on display at the Lexington Park Library.

Currently, both concept planning and the design and engineering phases have been financed by the state. A \$1,000,000 federal appropriation has also been approved for construction of the project. An additional \$3,000,000 is pending approval in the FFY07. Construction is anticipated in calendar year 2008. The total project cost is projected at \$3,400,000. If available, additional project funding may be used for underground utilities; i.e., telephone lines and sewer and water line replacement.

COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND: REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR WELLNESS CENTER

Present: Dr. Brad Gottfried, President, CSM
Dean F. J. Talley, Leonardtown Campus, CSM
Jamie Raley, St. Mary's Board of Trustees, CSM

The presenters requested that the Commissioners sign a Letter of Intent to the Maryland Higher Education Commission reflecting the County's commitment to supporting the proposed Wellness Center at the Leonardtown Campus. It was clarified that the Letter of Intent promulgates the County's support and intent, not a commitment, which will be pending the final outcome of the County's budget. The state will fund 75% of the project (\$11,474,000), and the remaining 25%, pending the County's budget outcome, will be funded by the County.

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Dement, to sign the Letter of Intent, as presented, to assure the Maryland Higher Education Commission that St. Mary's County intends to provide the local share of funds to design, construct, and equip the Wellness Center at the College of Southern Maryland's Leonardtown Campus. Motion carried 5-0.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agenda December 19, 2006 (No BOCC meetings will be held on 12/26/06 and 1/2/07. The next BOCC meeting will be 1/9/07).
2. **Recreation, Parks and Community Services and St. Mary's College** (*Phil Rollins, Director, RP&CS*)

(St. Mary's College: Chip Jackson, Assoc. Vice President, Facilities; Marc Apter, Assoc. Vice President, Marketing and PR; Barbara Bershon, Director, Arts Outreach; Jeff Silberschlag, Professor and Music Director, River Concert Series

Commissioner Dement moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley to approve and authorize the Commissioner President to sign the MOU that establishes the

Terms and Conditions for the County's FY2007 contribution to the St. Mary's College Amphitheater Project. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Commissioner Dement

Congratulated everyone involved with the Leonardtown Square Christmas Tree Lighting. Presented a Commendation to Keith Colson on November 26 for achieving Eagle Scout rank. Congratulated the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad. Attended their Installation of Officers over the weekend. Attended the Sheriff Department's Christmas party.

Commissioner Mattingly

Also extended congratulations to the town of Leonardtown and the Fire Dept., largest crowd ever for the Christmas tree lighting.

Attended the Silent Angels memorial service.

Thanked County staff for their outstanding job and the public for their support with the Oath of Office. Also congratulated the elected officials.

Along with Commissioner Russell, attend the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) officer swearing in ceremony at Chopticon High School.

Attended the Special Needs Summit Meeting that addressed state and local needs of people with disabilities in the event of an emergency.

Attended the Hospice Tree of Lights at St. Paul's Church.

Congratulations to the Ridge Rescue Squad installation of officers; Commissioner Raley was the MC.

Commissioner Raley

Presented the County Seal at the ribbon cutting for a new local business; "County Florist and Gifts", located on Rt. 235 in California.

The old boathouse at the St. Mary's College is being demolished; will be replaced by a new two-story structure.

Attended the Eagle Scout ceremony for Andrew Smith, extended congratulations to Andrew. On behalf of the Board, attended the hearing at GMHS regarding the application of sludge, off of Bain Road (1st District). That same week, received notice that a portion of St. Jerome's Creek was being closed because of contamination. MDE assured that the sludge will stay on the site.

Attended the Christmas party at Carroll's Garage (local John Deere dealership), which was open to the public, a very nice affair.

Attended the 'Gingerbread Auction' at Lettie Dent Elementary School.

There were a number of tree lighting ceremonies; Leonardtown, Lexington Park, Ridge, and 7th District. Thanked the fire departments & volunteers involved with each.

Thanked Father Ball for his service for the newly elected officials.

Along with other Board members, attended the St. Mary's County School Retirees affair. Was presented with a ceremonial check for \$330,000, representing the value of retirees' volunteer time.

Acknowledged another great job done by Carolyn Laray, regarding St. Mary's County Destination Guide.

Acknowledged Bubby Knott's holiday light display on Flat Iron Rd.

Commissioner Jarboe

Requested that the Board discuss televising the Budget Work Sessions.

Commissioner Russell

Acknowledged that some of the press is not able to cover meetings and that he will discuss televising the Budget Work Sessions with the presenters.

Thanked the Culinary Arts students for their wonderful job at the Oath of Office and Art Shepard for a great job as emcee.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to Litigation and, time permitting, Property Acquisition, Motion carried 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Litigation

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
George Forrest, County Administrator
Christy Chesser, County Attorney
Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to the BOCC, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8
Time Held: 10:40 am – 11:08 am
Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed pending litigation matter.

COMMISSIONERS ATTEND LUNCHEON

The Commissioners attended the Meals on Wheels Appreciation Luncheon at the Dr. Forrest Technology and then returned to the Governmental Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Real Property Acquisition

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
(Commissioner Mattingly recused himself and was not in attendance)
George Forrest, County Administrator
Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation, Parks & Community Services
Liz Passarelli, Real Property Manager

Authority: Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to the BOCC, Recorder
Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11

Time Held: 1:23 pm – 1:35 pm
Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed property acquisition matter.

Real Property Acquisition

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
George Forrest, County Administrator
Phil Rollins, Director, Recreation, Parks & Community Services
Liz Passarelli, Real Property Manager

Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to the BOCC, Recorder
Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11
Time Held: 1:36 pm – 1:47 pm
Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed property acquisition matter.

Real Property Acquisition

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
George Forrest, County Administrator
Christy Chesser, County Attorney
George Erichsen, Director, Dept. of Public Works & Transportation
Denis Canavan, Director, Land Use and Growth Management
Liz Passarelli, Real Property Manager

Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to the BOCC, Recorder
Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)11
Time Held: 1:48 – 2:27 pm
Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed property acquisition matter.

BUDGET WORK SESSIONS

The Commissioner President announced that, based on the majority of the Board, the Budget Work Sessions will continue to remain open to the public, but not televised.

ACTIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Mattingly, to direct staff to proceed as discussed in Executive Session with regards to Litigation. Motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Jarboe voting nay.

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to direct staff to proceed as discussed in Executive Session with regards to Property Acquisition. Motion carried 5-0.

FY 2008 BUDGET WORK SESSION

The meeting was adjourned and the Board reconvened to hold a FY2008 Budget Work Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Litigation

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Kenneth R. Dement
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
George Forrest, County Administrator
Christy Chesser, County Attorney
Donna Gebicke, Administrative Assistant to the BOCC, Recorder
Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)8
Time Held: 5:04 pm – 5:25 pm
Action Taken: The Commissioners discussed pending litigation matter.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:25 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Betty Jean Pasko, Senior Administrative Coordinator

