

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF June 5, 2006

St. Mary's County Governmental Center

Members Present: David S. Deaderick, Chair
George E. Baroniak, Vice Chair
Joseph Bush, Member
Arthur Goeller, Member
Warren Kunz, Member
Viola M. Gardner, Alternate
Susan J. Wolfe, Executive Secretary

Also Present: Christy Holt Chesser, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Deaderick at 2:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on June 19, 2006.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES:

Minutes of May 15, 2006. The minutes will be reviewed at the next regular meeting.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:

Seven statements were reviewed. Cease and desist letters were sent to 17 individual members of county boards and commissions. A letter was signed by Mr. Deaderick to Mr. McKay, President, BOCC, asking for the Board's assistance in acquiring the outstanding Financial Disclosure Statements.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Revised Ethics Ordinance; Maryland State Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion Re Acceptance of Tickets to College and Professional Sporting Events. Ms. Chesser reviewed the language in the revised Ethics Ordinance and made two editorial change suggestions. Mr. Deaderick will send the latest revision language to the General Counsel of the Maryland State Ethics Commission for review. Once approved, the County Attorney's office will present the revision to the Board of County Commissioners for review, in anticipation of a public hearing to follow shortly thereafter.

Request for an Advisory Opinion from St. Mary's County Employees Association. Commission members agreed on a decision. Mr. Goeller will draft the advisory opinion for review at the next meeting.

Request for Information as to Whether a County Commissioner Who (1) is a Member of a County Volunteer Fire Department May Vote on Budget Matters Pertaining to the Fire Department and (2) Receives a Length of Service Retirement Stipend from the Department, Should Discuss and/or Vote on these Matters. The advisory opinion (1) and advisory memorandum (2) were approved and signed by the members.

Review of Commission Bylaws. The proposed bylaws changes were approved. They will be sent in a redline/strikeout and final version to the County Attorney for review/approval and presentation to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. The primary change to the bylaws is to remove sections that are covered by the Commission's Rules of Procedure.

NEW BUSINESS:

Letter from Member of Plumbing Board. Members reviewed a letter from John Butterfield who expressed concern about the viability of the Plumbing Board and announced his resignation from the Board. Mr. Deaderick will include the commission's concern about the Plumbing Board viability in his letter to Commissioner President McKay. .

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Goeller moved to adjourn at 3:18 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried