

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION**  
**St. Mary's County Potomac Building**

**Minutes of February 16, 2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joseph B. Bush, Chair  
Robert W. Denning, Vice Chair  
Robert E. Elwood, Member  
Elizabeth Long, Member  
Candace Butler, Alternate Member  
Sarah Cannavo, Administrative Support

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Arthur F. Goeller, Member

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bush at 2:05 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on March 1, 2010 in Conference Room 14 of the Potomac Building.

It is with sadness that we say good-bye to Mr. Bush, who has decided to move out of state. This will be Mr. Bush's last meeting. Mr. Denning will move up to Chairman until July when the Commission will elect a permanent Chairman.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Minutes for Open Session of February 1, 2010:** Ms. Long made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Mr. Denning and carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Ordinance Update:** Ms. Chesser, County Attorney, addressed the membership concerning FDS requirements for the MetCom Director position. Ms. Chesser suggested that the Commission proceed with suggested changes to the Ethics Ordinance to include required FDS filing for the position of Director. Additionally, it was suggested that legislation governing MetCom be changes to include the FDS filing requirement. This recommendation could be provided to the MetCom Task Force, which is currently reviewing the governing documents, to be included in the Task Force recommendations.

**Lobbyist:** Mr. Elwood suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting due to the large amount of material needing to be covered at this meeting. All members agreed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Regional Ethics Conference (Tri-County):** Charles County will host the next Regional Ethics Conference, currently scheduled for May 14, 2010, in La Plata. Mr. Payton, Chairman for the Charles County Ethics Commission, asked that we provide a 45 minute presentation to the participants. It was recommended by the Commission that Mr. Goeller prepare and deliver the presentation due to his exceptional communication skills and immense knowledge on the subject matter. Mr. Bush will contact Mr. Payton and confirm the St. Mary's County attendance at the conference.

**7% Reduction in Ethics Commission Budget:** Mr. Bush signed the recommended 7% Budget Reduction forms approved at the last meeting. Ms. Cannavo will provide the Ethics Commission FY2011 Budget Request to the Finance office.

**Complaint 10-01 through 10-05:** Five certified complaint was received on February 9, 2010 and reviewed for the first time by the Commission members.

**Executive Session:** Ms. Long made a motion to move into Executive Session as provided for in Article 25, Section 4-210(a) (1) Boards and Commissions and the St. Mary's County Ethics Ordinance Rules of Procedure, Section 7. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elwood. Motion carried, 5-0.

Executive Session: 2:50 PM to 3:50 PM.

Ms. Long made a motion to close the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried. 5-0

## **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS:**

34 FDS statements were reviewed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Ms. Long to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Denning and the motion was carried. The St. Mary's County Ethics Commission was adjourned at 3:51 PM.