

**MINUTES
CHAPTER 113 - TASK FORCE**

**COMMISSIONERS of ST. MARY'S COUNTY &
ST. MARY'S COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION**

OCTOBER 4, 2017

The Chapter 113 Task Force Meeting was called to order at approximately 4:15 p.m. Those in attendance are shown on the attached sign-in sheet. Also in attendance was Ms. Roma Mauro, a member of the public.

OPENING

The attendance sheet and Draft September 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes were circulated among the group. A typographical error was noted for correction.

The meeting opened with a short discussion on the lengthy loan process involved with state loans and funding. Mr. Erichsen described the challenges in requiring contractors to hold their prices for a minimum of 180 days between the bid opening and final loan closing.

The group then referred to the Amendment Matrix. The final text amendments (*highlighted in yellow*) on the Matrix are a direct reflection of the discussion items included in the September 20 Meeting Minutes. Minor changes discussed at the last meeting included updating the term "County Administrator" in lieu of County Clerk. **Section 113-9 Water and Sewer Connections** includes an additional note in the rationale column that cross references Section 4.3 of the County's Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan (CWSP) which states that several methods of financing are available. The group then discussed some of the other minor editorial changes that were incorporated to ensure consistency with the proposed changes made to date.

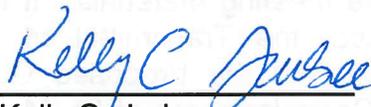
The Health Department endorsement of the proposed amendments was signed by Dr. Brewster on 9-29-2017 and was distributed as part of the meeting materials. It has been the Task Force's intent that this correspondence, the Transmittal of the Amendment Matrix signed by all Task Force Members and the proposed Code language in draft legislative format, be submitted to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County (CSMC) and the MetCom Board. The Task Force agreed that it is most likely not necessary to meet again unless requested to do so. As such, there will be no October 18th meeting and a public notice reflecting same will be placed on the website and distributed to the media. Mr. Erichsen reminded the group of the joint meeting between CSMC and MetCom, tentatively scheduled for November 7, 2017 as well as the Delegation meeting with the CSMC scheduled for the evening (6:30 pm) of December 5, 2017 and invited all the members to attend if they could.

Delegate Clark then questioned the language surrounding liens during his review of the draft Code language. Specifically, he stated some concern with the statement that MetCom fees are a *first lien against the property* possibly affecting the ability of a homeowner to obtain a loan for their property. There was then a discussion about the lien priority and that MetCom charges are similar to property taxes in terms of their lien position. It was noted that this first lien language is currently in several different sections of the Code and that MetCom liens are statutorily created and are not recorded. Title abstractors are instructed to consult the posted Aging List as per **Section 112-12.D.8.**

The Task Force members concurred that the Amendment Matrix addresses several core areas that will provide the Metropolitan Commission with some additional flexibility and opportunity to better serve and expand its customer base. In addition, the minor editorial changes and clarifications in several topical areas should also help the document be more current and understandable.

Letters of support from both the MetCom Board and the CSMC will provide the critical support to advance these recommendations with the Delegation. It was also noted that both Boards may alter or amend these recommendations as they deem appropriate and after more formal drafting of the legislative language. The Transmittal Letter was signed by the Task Force members present at the meeting with arrangements having been coordinated for the remaining signatures to be collected from the members not present. Mr. Erichsen reminded the Task Force that their collective goal was not to rewrite Chapter 113, but to provide a consensus on recommended language that would be both beneficial and approvable. Mr. Erichsen thanked the members for all their diligent work and attendance throughout the process.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.



Kelly C. Jarboe,
Recording Secretary

Metropolitan Commission

John J. Carey, Chair
 Bryan Barthelme, Vice-Chair
 Alice Gaskin, Member
 Mike Mummaugh, Member
 Robert Russell, Member
 George Thompson, Member
 Steve Willing, Member



Commissioners of St. Mary's County

James R. Guy, President
 Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
 Tom Jarboe, Commissioner
 Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
 John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

October 4, 2017

Attendance Sheet - Chapter 113 Task Force

Name of Entity	Representative	Designee(s)	Check Here
Citizen(s)	Community members	Joseph (Russ) Russell	
Citizen(s)	Community members	John Walters	<i>JW</i>
MetCom Board	Board Member	Michael Mummaugh	<i>MM</i>
MetCom Board	Board Member	John Carey	<i>JC</i>
CSMC	Commissioner	Tom Jarboe	
CSMC	Commissioner	James R. (Randy) Guy	
Health Department	Dr. Brewster, Health Officer	Daryl Calvano	<i>DC</i>
SMC Delegation	Chairman Deb Rey Representative	Delegate Jerry Clark	<i>JRC</i>
MetCom Staff	Executive Director	George Erichsen	<i>GE</i>
MetCom Staff	CFO	Becky Shick	<i>BS</i>
MetCom Staff	MetCom Attorney	Christopher Beaver	<i>CB</i>
County Staff	CFO	Jeannett Cudmore	
County Staff	County Attorney	George Sparling	<i>GS</i>
County Staff	LUGM Director	Bill Hunt	<i>BH</i>