

statement of the appropriations. They shall further be authorized to revise the schedule of anticipated receipts and estimated rates for general and special taxes and assessments in such manner as they may deem necessary. Not later than [April 1] *May 1* in each year, or on the first day thereafter, if [April 1] *May 1* be a legal holiday, the [County Commissioners] *Board of Estimates* of St. Mary's County shall by a majority vote adopt the final budget, schedule of anticipated receipts, fix general and special tax rates [.] and impose the levy for the ensuing fiscal year. Such levy together with any surplus county funds and all other revenues from all other sources as shown by the schedule of anticipated receipts, must be sufficient to cover the total appropriations in the budget. The final budget, schedule of anticipated receipts and levies so adopted shall be signed by a majority of the [County Commissioners] *Board of Estimates*, certified by [their] *its* [clerk], *secretary* and at least three copies kept on record at the office of the County Commissioners, open to public inspection during regular business hours throughout the fiscal year in which it covers [.] and said County Commissioners shall not incur any obligation on the faith and credit of St. Mary's County other than those items provided in the budget.]

53.A.

The Board of County Commissioners shall only use the said contingent fund for necessary emergency purposes and projects, and for the purpose of meeting any demand on account of any estimate for which there may be no money at the time it is needed for the purpose of the estimate, and when the revenue for the estimate shall have been received, it shall be credited to the contingent fund.

53.B.

The said Board of Estimates, after receiving all of the estimates in the manner hereinbefore provided for, together with such estimates as they shall themselves make, before determining the aggregate of estimates they shall carefully consider each estimate, and so fix the amount of the same that it shall be what is reasonable and proper, and that they shall, in making and fixing the estimates, do so with a view to economy and efficiency.

53.C.

Any wilful disregard, breach, evasion, violation or failure to discharge any of the duties herein imposed upon any member of the Board of County Commissioners, or Board of Estimates, or on the part of the members or member of any other board, or by or upon the part of any official, shall be a misdemeanor, and upon indictment for and conviction of such offense in the Circuit Court for St. Mary's County, he shall be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one year or be both fined and imprisoned in the discretion of the Court.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1963.*

Approved March 14, 1963.