

(II) IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY, AS THE TERMS OF THE INITIAL APPOINTEES EXPIRE OR AS VACANCIES OCCUR, THEIR SUCCESSORS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS IF A TERM EXPIRES, OR THE REST OF THE TERM IF A TERM IS VACATED.

(c) The members of the board shall serve without compensation.

(d) The board shall establish, maintain, and operate a nursing or convalescent home or homes and any other facilities and services necessary for the proper care and treatment of aged, convalescent, and chronically ill residents of the county and shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To accept gifts, legacies, bequests or endowments for purposes of the board. Unless otherwise specified by the donor making such gift, legacy, bequest or endowment, the board, in its discretion, may expend both principal and income of any such gift, bequest, legacy or endowment to support the board's nursing home program;

(2) To acquire and hold real and personal property in the name of the county commissioners by any means, to sell or otherwise dispose of such property so acquired, and to preserve and administer such properties;

(3) To provide adequate facilities and services for the care and treatment of the aged, convalescent, and chronically ill citizens of the county. These facilities and services will or may include physical care, medical, nursing, recreational, rehabilitative, special education, and other similar activities, and, in addition, dissemination of information relative to causes and prevention of chronic and debilitating illnesses;

(4) To charge such fees for admission to and maintenance in such facilities and for use of such services as may support the facilities and services subject, however, to the provision that where aged, convalescent, and chronically ill residents of the county are in need of such facilities and services and are sufficiently impecunious as to be unable to pay the full cost of such care, then the charges to such residents shall be in direct proportion to their ability to pay for the services;

(5) To apply all moneys, assets, property or other things of value it may receive to the general purposes of the board;

(6) To adopt, subject to the terms of this section, such rules and regulations of any facilities or services that it establishes as may be necessary for their proper operation;

(7) To cooperate with and assist, insofar as practicable, any agency of the State of Maryland, the United States of America, any subdivision of either, or any private agency or person in furtherance of any of the purposes of this section;

(8) To hire a director of any facility or service that it establishes and to provide for such additional employees, their qualifications and wages as are necessary to properly operate such facilities;