

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
June 7, 2011

At 2:00 p.m., the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County met in regular session with Commissioner President Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Vice-President Charles F. Fisher, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston and Commissioner Randy Laird.

County Administrator-Clerk, Cynthia R. Ward and Executive Secretary, Lory E. Ebron were also present.

President Rex Simpkins called the meeting to order. Commissioner Laird led those attending the meeting in repeating the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday May 24, 2011, and approve the minutes as presented.

Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance Director, was now present before the Board to review the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget. After a brief explanation of the FY 2012 budget time line, Mr. Adkins advised that no responses in opposition or support had been received by the Commissioner's Office by the May 31, 2011 deadline. Mr. Adkins stated that since the Public Hearing, held on Tuesday May 17, 2011, only a few minor changes have been made. Total revenue, previously noted as \$36,252,376 was adjusted to \$36,237,422, a reduction of approximately \$15,000. This reduction was created by modifications to fringe and salary figures, as well as an adjustment to the Recreation and Parks budget. Mr. Adkins also advised that the Roads budget remained the same as previously noted, \$5,379,251.87.

Therefore, on a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 that it be adopted and resolved, that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012, the property tax rate be \$.8837 per \$100.00 of the full assessed value of real property and \$2.20925 per \$100.00 of full assessed value of personal and public utility property in Somerset County, except such property as may, by provision of the laws, be exempt from this rate.

A motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 that it be adopted and resolved that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012, the property tax rate of \$.28 per \$100.00 of the full assessed value of public utility property; and, \$.112 per

\$100.00 of the full assessed value of all other real property in Somerset County, excepting such property as may, by provisions of the laws, be exempt from this rate, be levied and imposed for the State of Maryland.

A motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 that it be adopted and resolved that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012, the local income tax rate for residents of the County be at the rate of 3.15% of Maryland's taxable income for Tax Year 2012.

A motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 that it be adopted and resolved for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012, that a service charge of 0.48% be applied to the second installment amount of semiannual tax payments.

A motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 4-0 that it be adopted and resolved that the proposed Levy, reflecting total revenues in the amount of \$36,237,422.00 and total appropriations in the amount of \$36, 237,422.00, be adopted as the Official Levy of Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

A motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 that it be adopted and resolved that the proposed Somerset County Roads Budget, reflecting total revenues in the amount of \$5,379,251.87 and total appropriations in the amount of \$5,379,251.87 be adopted for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

Mr. Adkins then distributed the Commissioners' Budget and the Roads Department Budget signature cover sheets to the County Commissioners for their signatures. (Original signed Budget is hereto attached to these minutes.)

Ms. Jennifer Ranck, Library Director and Mr. John Samus, Library Board member were now present before the board, asking the board to consider authorizing Commissioner President Simpkins to sign a certification as to availability of credit and a federal grant application for FY2012 on behalf of the Princess Anne Library for completion of the Phase I upgrade. Ms. Ranck explained that the grant application she has submitted today will be requesting a total amount of \$285,000.00. Although the grant is for the library, the request must come through the county. Ms. Ranck said that her federal grant request will be in the amount of \$185,000, however, the current cap is set at \$50,000. Ms. Ranck also explained that the certification as to

availability of credit form was unusual, and she will include a letter from PNC with the submission.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 3-0 to authorize Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the certification as to availability of credit and the federal grant application for FY2012 on behalf of the Princess Anne Library for completion of the Phase I upgrade.

Next, Ms. Ranck asked for the board's consideration to provide a letter of intent with regard to the county's possible FY2013 grant funding allowance relating to the Crisfield Library project. Commissioner Fisher asked for an amount. Ms. Ranck explained that they are in the beginning phases of this project, and after a short discussion, Ms. Ranck suggested \$250,000. She also noted that the letter of inquiry would not be an obligation to the county. Commissioner Laird asked if the county would be able to opt out if needed. Ms. Ranck replied that the county could opt out if needed.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, a letter of intent will be drafted in support of the FY2013 library project relating to the Crisfield Library project in the amount of \$250,000.

Mr. Robin Street, Manager Sanitary District, was now present before the board. Mr. Street presented a commercial loan modification form from Hebron Savings Bank for the board's consideration. He explained that interim financing for the software upgrade in his office was not fully completed. Due to various staffing shortages, a delay in installation had occurred. The modification will extend the loan agreement maturity date by 3 months, from June 3, 2011 to September 3, 2011. There was no change to the rate or loan amount approved at the September 14, 2010 meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, Commissioner President Simpkins was authorized to sign the Commercial Loan Modification document from Hebron Savings Bank to extend the loan maturity date from June 3, 2011 to September 3, 2011. The motion carried 3-0.

Ms. Ward began review of correspondence received since the last meeting.

Letters were received from the State of Maryland Governor's office, dated June 6, 2011, with regard to the following appointments to the Somerset County Board of Elections; Mr. Richard A. Barnhart, Mr. Robert F. McCreedy, each appointed to serve as a member for a term of four years and Ms. Mary L.T. Handy, Mr. Jackie Lee Mills, and Ms. Emily B. Ent, each re-appointed to serve a term of four years.

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Water Management Administration provided Notice of Applications Received for State Permits. Mr. Keith B. Ward, Crisfield Maryland has applied for an aquaculture license to grow Eastern oysters in cages on approximately 5 acres within a proposed bottom lease.

Correspondence has been received from the Maryland Department of Planning State Clearinghouse about the CDBG funding request submitted with regard to the proposed Somerset County Senior Center.

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development notified the Commissioner's office of receipt of the recent application for State Fiscal Year 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funds. The letter stated that 28 applications from 23 jurisdictions totaling \$9.2 million had been received. There is only approximately \$6 million of grant funds available.

Ms. Ward next reviewed a letter received from Charter regarding an upcoming price increase of \$3.00 per month for the Expanded Basic price. Commissioner Laird noted that their service has been unsatisfactory in the Crisfield area, and requested a letter be sent, notifying them of the community's dissatisfaction. Commissioners Fisher and Simpkins concurred with sending a letter as well.

Ms. Ward then discussed a memo received from Ms. Vicky Ford, Planning and Zoning requesting the Board's consideration to approve a Deed of Subordination for James E. and Aretta Ward. In the memo, Ms. Ford explained that Mr. and Mrs. James Ward of Marion, Maryland received a grant for home repairs with a grant mortgage filed on August 5, 2008 in the amount of

\$14,925.00. The Wards are an elderly couple who are having financial difficulty. They are at risk of possible foreclosure and have applied for a reverse mortgage. The loan company is requesting that Somerset County subordinate to second position. It was noted that there is a little over two years left on the grant.

After discussion, on a motion by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 3-0 to authorize Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the Subordination Agreement among James E. Ward and Aretta Ward, Grantors; and The Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County, Beneficiary.

Ms. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor, was now present before the Board. Ms. Muir explained that an addendum to the Integra Plan with regard to the prescription cap has been requested. The addendum will increase the prescription cap from \$7,000 to \$8,000 for FY 2012. Ms. Muir explained that there are retiree's that are close to the \$7,000 cap limit.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to increase the prescription cap limit from \$7,000 to \$8,000.

Additionally, Ms. Muir requested that the prescription cap be increased for the remainder of FY2011.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to approve increasing the prescription cap with Integra from \$7,000 to \$8,000 for the remaining 2011 fiscal year.

Ms. Muir next presented the Inter-Governmental Agreement between the Maryland State Department of Human Resources, Somerset County Department of Social Services and Somerset County Government Commissioners for JARC/Strides funding through Department of Social Services. The total cost for transportation services is \$600,000 for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014, which is broken down into three payment increments of \$200,000 per year. Ms. Muir also noted an attachment included requiring an authorized signature with regard to certification for contracts, grants, loans and cooperative agreements.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Laird, authorization was given to Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the Inter-Governmental Agreement between the Maryland State Department of Human Resources, Somerset County Department of

Social Services and Somerset County Commissioners. County Administrator-Clerk Ward was authorized to sign the Certification Regarding Lobbying attachment. The motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Steve Marshall, Director of Emergency Services was now present before the board for the bid opening for the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The previous plan, by S & S Planning and Design was drafted in 2006. Mr. Marshall stated that the plan is a funded mandate in the amount of \$30,000 (75/25) and redone every five years. The county contribution will be approximately \$7,000, however Mr. Marshall expects to make up the match so there will be no cost to the county. Commission President Simpkins proceeded in opening the sealed bids for the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Bid information is as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. URS Corporation	\$19,850.00
2. Michael J. Blake Jr., Inc.	bid amount not included
3. Intergraded Solutions Consulting	\$21,888.00
4. S & S Planning and Design	\$21,092.00
5. Early Alert	\$68,500.00

Mr. Marshall placed a courtesy call to Michael J. Blake Jr., Inc., during the opening of the bid to ask where the bid amount was located in the package submitted. It was found that the page with bid information had not been included in the package submitted, so therefore the bid submission from Michael J. Blake Jr., Inc. was disqualified. Mr. Marshall advised that he would review the submitted bid proposals, and return with a recommendation at a future meeting.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance was now present before the Board for the Bid Opening for the Airport Mowing Project relating to bush hogging 50 acres located at the Crisfield Airport in Crisfield, Maryland. Commission President Simpkins proceeded in opening the sealed bids for the Crisfield Airport Mowing Project. Bid information was requested to be in a per cut format as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. D & K Bulldozing	\$7,000.00
2. Gerard Dumpsha	\$3,600.00
3. Scotty's Lawn Service	\$4,750.00
4. Nelson General Services	\$3,190.00
5. Ryan Miller	\$3,195.00

Commissioner Laird asked if the County requests bid proposals for Airport mowing every year. Mr. Cavanaugh explained that some of areas are handled by the county such as the

grass runways; fringe areas by the trees and an area by the hanger are also cut. Also, the City of Crisfield does a portion. The rougher area's in need of bush hogging is bid out. It was Mr. Cavanaugh's recommendation to award the bid to Nelson General Services with the lowest bid of \$3,190.00.

On a motion by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the bid for the Airport Mowing Project relating to bush hogging 50 acres located at the Crisfield Airport in Crisfield, Maryland was awarded to Nelson General Services for a bid amount of \$3,190.00. The motion carried 3-0.

Next, Mr. Cavanaugh was present for the Bid Opening for Recycling Roll-Off Containers. Commissioner President Simpkins proceeded to open the sealed bids for 30 yard, 4 section recycling roll-off containers with roofs. Bid information was as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. Meadows Hydraulics	\$7,194.00
2. Bakers Waste Equipment	\$7,524.00
3. Stolfus Steel Manufacturing	\$7,509.00
4. Waste Equipment Sales	\$10,751.00
5. Conshohocken Steel Product LLC	\$9,084.00
6. Waste Quip Manufacturing Co., LLC	\$8,461.00
7. Mid Atlantic Waste Systems	\$7,929.00

Mr. Cavanaugh stated that he would like to compare the submissions, and return with a recommendation at a future meeting date.

Ms. Susanna Henson, Executive Director, Local Management Board (LMB), was now present before the Board. Joining Ms. Henson were LMB Board Members Mr. Kirkland Hall, Sister Cecilia McManus and Jennifer Ranck. Ms. Henson began by providing an overview on the progresses and accomplishments of the LMB. Ms. Henson explained that funding, in the amount of approximately \$800,000, for LMB comes from three main sources; the Governor's Office for Children, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention and the Maryland State Department of Education. The average cost per person is \$871.00 per year. The same amount of funding will be received for FY2012. Ms. Henson explained that she has been in conversations with Tri-County Council and Wicomico County, attempting to form a united front, discussing possible options with regard of the future of LMB. Ms. Henson also advised the Board, that because of staff reductions, two offices belonging to Somerset County, will no longer be needed. Ms. Henson also indicated that she would like to provide the Board with updates,

which she could route through Commissioner Mathies, as he serves as a LMB Board Member. The Commissioners agreed that semi-annual reporting would be sufficient. Lastly, Ms. Henson discussed exploring the possibility of the LMB becoming a 501 c-3 organization. She noted that funding sources would be obtained through community funding and possibly Purdue funding, and would open the door to bring in money to the county. She commented that she would be looking outside the box for funding sources, and that preliminary research has shown that LMB could be a non-profit organization within the county.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, Ms. Henson was authorized to explore the possibility of LMB becoming a 501 c-3 organization. The motion carried 3-0.

Ms. Ward next discussed the request made by Somerset County Fire Police at the May 25, 2011 meeting, whereas the Somerset County Fire Police requested funding assistance in the amount of \$7,540.00 to purchase pop up cones, traffic batons, breakaway vests and radios. A review was made of what has been provided to the Fire Police from the Emergency Services Department. After discussion, it was decided that the request would be declined, as it was not received in a sufficient amount of time before the FY2012 budget deliberations. The recommendation will be made to the Somerset County Fire Police to re-submit a written request to be considered in next year's budget. Additionally, the request is to be routed through Mr. Steve Marshall, Director of Emergency Services.

Mr. Dan Kuebler was now present before the Board. Mr. Kuebler asked if there were any total reductions in salaries from FY 2011 to FY 2012. He also asked if that data was available. Mr. Kuebler commented about Operational and Personnel data being made public. Additionally, he inquired if the requested 7% reduction was obtained. Next, Mr. Kuebler commented that he has observed county owned bush hogs on county vehicles, and questioned why the county is bidding out the bush hog project for the Crisfield Airport when the job can be done in house. Lastly, Mr. Kuebler feels that the process of the meeting creates a lack of public input. An example he provided was the decision made with regard to the new Crisfield Library location. He feels the decision is driven by "Out of Towner's" and not by residents, and that the subject is becoming very contentious. He also noted that a government agency that considers becoming a



non-profit competes against private and commercial enterprise, and he questioned if it would be allowed.

Mr. Phil Riggin was now before the Board. Mr. Riggin questioned the two state letters in the exhibit package for today's meeting, and inquired if they were the same grant. Ms. Ward said that she would look into the matter, as the block grant number was not referenced. Mr. Riggin asked about the amount charged by the Maryland Association of Counties, Inc., and if it is based on the number of people in the county. Lastly, Mr. Riggin said that the American Legion has asked about the transfer of the property in Crisfield. It was noted that the Governor has signed off on the transfer in April.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

The amount drawn on the General Fund Checking Account for the week of June 7, 2011, from check no. 85822 through check no.85861 was \$512,068.63.

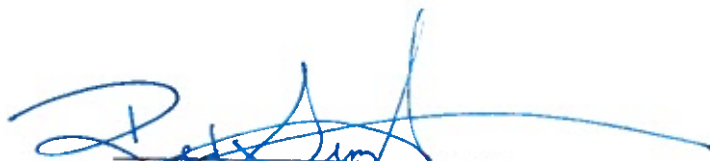
The amount drawn on the General Fund Checking Account for the week of June 14, 2011, from check no. 85862 through check no.85921 was \$1,997,925.18.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron  
Executive Secretary

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County