

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
JULY 19, 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 Craig N. Mathies, Sr., 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, and asked Commissioner Mathies to lead 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 4-0 to dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, July 5, 2011 and approve the minutes as presented.

Mr. Paige Hurley, Director of Recreation and Parks, was now present before the board for the opening of the bid proposals with regard to the installation of a parking lot area at the Centralized Athletic Complex in Westover. Mr. Hurley explained that the parking lot area has been cut in, and a substantial amount of fill dirt applied. The bid submission would be to have two inches of CR6 applied and any additional fill dirt needed to bring the parking lot area to grade. Commissioner President Simpkins opened and read the following bid submissions:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Richard Reynolds	\$7,325.00
Ryan Miller	\$8,220.00
Mark Bozman	\$7,363.00
Doug Vann	\$7,879.00
Gerard Dumsha	\$8,500.00

Commissioner President Simpkins then gave the submissions to Mr. Hurley for his review.

Following the review, it was motioned by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston to award the bid to the lowest bidder, Mr. Richard Reynolds in the amount of \$7,325.00. The motion carried 4-0.

County Administrator-Clerk Cynthia R. Ward began review of correspondence received since the last meeting.

An Agency Review Request was received from the Maryland Depth of Planning, State Clearinghouse with regard to the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund. Ms. Ward noted that 124 projects within 23 counties had been referenced in the request. Ms. Ward stated that \$4.8 million was allotted to Somerset County regarding the Wastewater Plant project at Ewell Roads Point.

The list of projects was reviewed and after discussion, Ms. Ward recommended a C5 response to the request. Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to submit a C5 response with regard to the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund request.

Next, Ms. Ward advised the Board of an Agency Review Request submitted for the Maryland Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund. There were 41 projects stated for 18 counties. With regard to Somerset County, Ms. Ward noted that a project was listed for Sanitary District in the amount of \$241,000 with regard to the Crisfield Peripheral Water Meter Upgrade project. Ms. Ward recommended a C5 response.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to submit a C5 response to the Maryland Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

The Maryland Department of Planning State Clearing House provided the submission for the Statewide Planning Work Program 2012 project that seeks to meet the planning needs of Maryland Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to incorporate agreements reached at the re-program review stage. Ms. Ward noted that there was no specific reference to a project located in Somerset County.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to submit a C5 response with regard to the Statewide Planning Work Program. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Ward next advised the Board of a letter received from the State Highway Administration (SHA). The SHA is currently designing modifications to certain ramp locations on Main Street (MD 675). The project will widen ramps and sidewalks on Main Street, so that they will comply with State and Federal requirements for disabled access. Ms. Ward stated that the county property being

referenced is the front of the County Complex Building in Princess Anne. An Entry Agreement was enclosed with the letter that will grant permission to the SHA and its contractors to enter upon that portion of land as delineated on the enclosed plan sheet.

After review of the plan sheet, on a motion by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the Entry Agreement granting permission to the SHA and its contractors to enter upon county property as delineated on the plan sheet.

A memo from Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Planning and Zoning, dated July 13, 2011, requested the Boards consideration to appoint a replacement for Mr. Scott Beauchamp of the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board. Mr. Beauchamp's term has expired, and he does not wish to be re-appointed.

At this time, Ms. Jenny Roser, Somerset Committee for the Homeless, Inc., was present before the Board requesting consideration with regard to Somerset County applying for the Emergency Solutions Grant for 2011. Ms. Roser explained that the grant has been utilized for several years to help fund the maintenance and operation costs of the Wood Home, a transitional homeless shelter in the county. Additionally, homeless prevention funds have been included in the grant. The Seton Center is requesting to administer the rental and utility assistance funds. Ms. Roser noted that the Seton Center has done an excellent job in the past. Ms. Roser said that they are requesting the maximum amount allowable from the Department of Housing and Community Development/ESG. The amount requested for the Wood Home is \$21,384, and \$30,000 is being requested for Seton Center. Ms. Roser said that this request replaces Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) grant funding.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Laird, Commissioner President Simpkins was authorized to sign the Emergency Solutions Grant for 2011 in the amount of \$51,384.00. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Ward continued with correspondence received since the last meeting.

A memo from Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Planning and Zoning, dated July 13, 2011, advised the Board that the term of two members of the Board of Zoning Appeals has expired. Mr. Brian Laird and Mr. Isaac Ballard have both indicated they would like to continue serving on the Board of Zoning

Appeals. Commissioner President Simpkins questioned if there is a two consecutive term limitation to serve on the board, noting that this would be the third term for both of these members. Ms. Ward said that she would inquire if there is written policy regarding term limitations with Mr. Pusey and report her findings back to the Board.

Ms. Ward next advised that Ms. MaryAnn Peterman's term on the Agricultural Reconciliation Board has expired. Ms. Peterman has indicated that she would like to continue to serve on the Board. Mr. Pusey has requested the Board's consideration to re-appoint Ms. Peterman to a 4 year term.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to re-appoint Ms. MaryAnn Peterman to a four year term on the Agricultural Reconciliation Board, expiring January 31, 2015.

Lastly, Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Planning and Zoning submitted a revised Resolution for permit fees. The revised Resolution waives the fee for the construction of handicapped ramps as approved by the Board at the May 10, 2011 meeting. It was also restated that although the fees were to be waived with regard to the construction of handicap ramps, inspections would still be required for safety reasons.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 4-0 to approve the Resolution waiving the fees for the construction of handicapped ramps, with inspections still being required for safety reasons. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Ward brought up for discussion the matter relating to the County's Forest Conservation Ordinance in order to comply with recently-enacted State Law. At the July 5, 2011 meeting, due to stated oppositions to the mandated revisions, Mr. Cadwallader was asked to contact the State and inquire that if there is opposition to the amendment mandated, what repercussions could be incurred if the county chooses not to comply. Mr. Cadwallader reported that he was told by State representatives that the county could first, run the risk of the State taking control of running the Forest Conservation Program, that could potentially delay the issuance of permits up to six months. Secondly, Mr. Cadwallader said that the State could potentially withhold Program Open Space funding if the county chooses not to comply with the mandated amendments.

Therefore, on a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it was reluctantly motioned to accept the State mandated changes to the County's Forest Conservation Ordinance as amended at the July 5, 2011 meeting. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Ward next advised that a request for signature was received with regard to the FY2012 Grant Agreement for Critical Area Grant –In-Aid Program. This grant, in the amount of \$16,000 will assist the county to implement and operate the critical area program.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the FY2012 Grant Agreement for Critical Area Grant-In-Aid Program in the amount of \$16,000.

Ms. Ward advised that the States Attorney has secured a grant through GOCCP. The grant, in the amount of \$3,604.00 will fund the entire cost to allow two- Assistant States Attorneys to attend a seminar in Seattle Washington titled "Successful Trial Strategies". The seminar is being held August 28 through September 1, 2011.

Ms. Ward asked the Board if there were any recommendations with regard to the Workforce Investment Board's three vacancies. There were no recommendations made.

A discussion was held with regard to the appointment of a Somerset County representative to serve on the Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center. It was noted that no one has accepted to serve at this time. Commissioners Boston and Fisher stated they will continue to search for someone interested in serving on the Workforce Investment Board as well as a representative to serve on the Eastern Shore Area Health Education Center.

Ms. Ward presented a request for signature from the Health Department to receive funding from the Core Funding Agreement with the State of Maryland. Ms. Ward noted that the county provides a match in the amount of \$620,760.00 which has been budgeted for FY2012.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the Core Funding Agreement on behalf of the Somerset County Health Department.

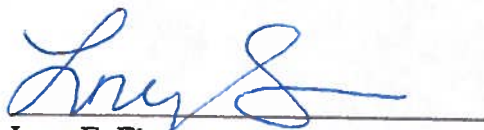
Mr. Dan Kuebler asked to speak before the Board. Mr. Kuebler thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to speak; noting the stress the Board is experiencing in trying to find representatives to serve on various boards. In light of the struggles experienced, Mr. Kuebler suggested the Board consider contacting Fraternal Organizations and Associations such as Chambers of Commerce and Elks Clubs to inquire if they are aware of anyone interested to serve. Mr. Kuebler stated that many people are not even aware that they can volunteer to serve on these boards. He also felt that a spreadsheet of committee's be maintained showing who is serving and when their terms expire to avoid "knee jerk" reactions to find replacements also noting that this would allow citizens to contribute to the county. Additionally Mr. Kuebler recommended the adoption of term limits. Commissioner President Simpkins asked Mr. Kuebler if he would be interested in serving on a board. Mr. Kuebler stated that he would if it were a board position that he would be qualified to serve on.

With no further business, on a motion by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

The amount drawn on the General Fund Checking Account for the week of July 18, 2011, from check no.86147 through check no.86194 was \$1,066,658.52.

The amount drawn on the General Fund Checking Account for the week of July 26, 2011, from check no.86195 through check no.86217 was \$899,632.74.

Respectfully Submitted:


Lory E. Ebron
Executive Secretary

Approved by:


Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County