

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
OCTOBER 25, 2011

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

Also present was Ralph D. Taylor, County Administrator, and Cynthia R. Ward, Executive Aide.

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

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was carried unanimously to approve the Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, October 11, 2011.

At this time, President Simpkins called for a motion to appoint Ralph D. Taylor, Clerk for the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Taylor would serve as Clerk for the remainder of the four year term.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to appoint Ralph D. Taylor as Clerk for the Board of County Commissioners. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Jayne Dryden was now before the Board to accept a Proclamation in recognition of National American Indian Heritage Month – November 2011 .

The Board reviewed a letter from Talbot County Council and the Mayor and Town Council of Easton submitted to Senator Barbara Mikulski and Senator Benjamin Cardin regarding the possible closure of the Easton Processing and Distribution Facility. This facility currently services 88 post offices on the Maryland portion of the Delmarva Peninsula, including Smith Island. During a brief discussion, a suggestion was offered for Somerset County to also submit a letter to Senators Mikulski and Cardin in support of the efforts to retain the U.S. Postal Service Processing and Distribution Facility in Easton.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to submit a letter in support of the efforts to retain the Distribution Facility in Easton. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board also reviewed a letter from Mr. Woody Barnes, Somerset County Mosquito Control Office, requesting assistance from ECI Annex for a supervised work group to paint the pontoons on the wetland excavator. The machine is currently located at the Somerset County Roads Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to approve the request for a supervised work group to paint the wetland excavator pontoons. The motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner President Simpkins was presented with the Second Amendment to Community Development Block Grant – MD 10-CD-25, Housing Rehabilitation Project, for approval and signature. The Housing Rehabilitation Project was awarded an additional \$300,000 in funding for housing projects located in the Town of Princess Anne and The City of Crisfield, and for an additional \$75,000 to undertake nine additional homes in the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to authorize President Simpkins to sign the Second Amendment to CDBG – MD 10-CD-25 for the additional funding. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board discussed the current condition of the Crisfield Airport runway. A slurry coating was applied to the paved runway in October of 2008. However, the runway still continues to crack and slowly deteriorate. Mr. Taylor advised that Somerset County Roads Department does not have the equipment to repair the cracks in the asphalt. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Board agreed to inspect the condition of the runway and research the availability of capital project funding through FAA.

The Board was reminded that the first meeting of the Redistricting Committee will be held Tuesday, November 1, 2011, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 105 of the Somerset County Office Complex.

A Deed was presented to the Board for the sale of the former Crisfield MAC/Senior Center (and formerly the Sarah Peyton School), that for and in consideration of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration, the Board of County Commissioners do hereby grant and convey the above mentioned property unto the Stanley Cochrane Post #16, American Legion. Legislation was passed during the previous session of the General Assembly giving the County the authority to sell the property to the American Legion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to sell the former Crisfield MAC/Senior Center for the sum of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration to the American Legion and sign the Deed as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

With no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

The amount drawn on the General Fund Checking Account for the week of October 25, 2011, from check no. 86663 through check no. 86722 was \$1,326,674.88

The amount drawn on the General Fund Checking Account for the week of November 1, 2011, from check no. 86723 through check no. 86751 was \$362,654.41

Respectfully Submitted:



Cynthia R. Ward
Executive Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County