

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2012

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.

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

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

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to approve the Minutes of the meetings held November 13, 2012, November 27, 2012, and December 4, 2012 (open and closed sessions) as presented.

Today's meeting began with the swearing in ceremony for the newly appointed Treasurer for Somerset County. Clerk of Court, I. Theodore Phoebus, administered the Oath of Office to Willis H. Dryden, Jr. of Marion Station. Mr. Dryden was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners on December 4, 2012 to fulfill the remainder of the current term, filling the vacancy left by the sudden death of Charles L. Muir.

President Simpkins opened sealed bids for a Lead Ditch Drainage Project on McIntyre Road in Mt. Vernon. Bid information is as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. Doug Vann	\$5,676.00
2. Paul Jones	\$4,895.00

Following a brief discussion regarding work performance of previous drainage projects, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to award the McIntyre Road Drainage Project to Doug Vann, for his bid of \$5,676.00. The motion was carried unanimously.

With Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance still present, the Board addressed the ongoing clean-up efforts of county residents following Hurricane Sandy. Due to the volume of debris, the Board agreed to extend the period of time in which the County

will accept tree and brush debris at the Messick Farm (opposite the Landfill) at no cost until March 1, 2013.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to continue to accept the debris at the Messick Farm (opposite the Landfill) at no cost until March 1, 2013 and re-evaluate the situation at that time.

Mr. Cavanaugh also reported that several requests have been received to waive the tipping fees for demolition material from houses damaged by the storm. As previously approved by the Board, the County will waive the tipping fees, provided the homeowner can present a notarized statement that they do not have a homeowners insurance policy.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried unanimously to also continue to accept the demolition material, under the same provisions, until March 1, 2013.

Ms. Julie Widdowson, Director of Tourism for Somerset County, was now present before the Board to request the approval and signature of a Marketing Grant Agreement. If approved, the County would receive \$17, 899 in state funding through the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, acting through the Maryland Tourism Development Board, to promote and develop tourism.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was carried unanimously to authorize Commissioner President Simpkins to sign the Marketing Grant Agreement for FY13, in the amount of \$17,899.

Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of the Department of Technical and Community Services, was now present before the Board, accompanied by Audrey Cornelius, G.I.S. Technician/Zoning Specialist, and Tom Lawton, Senior Planner. Mr. Pusey updated the Board on the status of "Tier Mapping" for the County, as required in each Maryland County following the passage of Senate Bill 236 (Septic Tank Bill). As previously discussed, the entire County will be mapped into four tiers:

- Tier 1 - on municipal water/sewer system
- Tier 2 - plans for municipal water/sewer system within 10 years
- Tier 3 - within a growth area or rural village or areas zoned for development
- Tier 4 - other rural area

The Planning Commission has reviewed the drafted tier map and has forwarded a favorable recommendation to the County Commissioners. The draft has also been sent to the State Department of Planning for preliminary review and comment. Some of those

recommendations have been incorporated into the final draft. Mr. Pusey advised that he was seeking an “administrative adoption” by the County Commissioners today. Upon approval by the Board, the tier maps would then be sent to Maryland Department of Planning for final review. In closing, Mr. Pusey reported that his staff coordinated the mapping project with the Town of Princess Anne and the City of Crisfield.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Laird, for the administrative adoption of the tier maps as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

At this time, the County Administrator reviewed correspondence and discussion items with the Board.

A letter of request was received from the Zerbini Family Circus to once again lease county property at the Somerset County Agricultural and Civic Center in May of 2013. A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, to approve the request provided they supply the proper insurance documentation. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 1053, a Resolution amending the County’s Ten-Year Solid Waste Plan, was presented to the Board for signature. A public hearing was held by the Board on Tuesday, November 20, 2012 to receive public comment on the proposed amendments, and action was taken by the Board on December 4, 2012 to approve the amended Plan.

The Board discussed a proposal presented by Charles D. MacLeod and Jeff Blomquist, of Funk & Bolton, Attorneys At Law, on November 27, 2012, regarding a proposal to join Dorchester and other counties in forming a coalition to shift public policy regarding the Watershed Implementation Plan proposed by the State and the current regulations regarding TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). An initial commitment of \$25,000 would be required if the County chose to join the coalition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to decline the offer to join the Coalition. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board was reminded of vacancies that exist on the Social Services Board and the Housing Review Board, and the following action was taken:

Upon motion made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it was carried unanimously to appoint Ms. Laverne Wright to serve as member of the Social Services Board.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it was carried unanimously to appoint Mr. Johnny Corbin to serve as member of the Housing Review Board.

The Board was advised of a request received for a Proclamation recognizing January as Mentoring Month. A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to prepare a Proclamation in recognition of Mentoring Month. The motion carried unanimously.

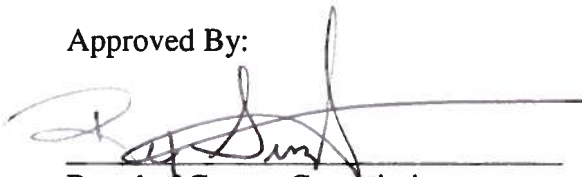
With no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to adjourn the meeting and go into Closed Session, authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 10-508 (a)(1)(i) – the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction. The motion carried unanimously and the regular session was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Cynthia R. Ward  
Executive Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County