

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 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 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, March 27, 2012, and the Closed Session minutes of the meetings held March 13<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup>, and April 3, 2012, and approve them as presented.

President Simpkins began by opening sealed bids for two drainage ditch maintenance projects: Osburn Webster Road (1,865 feet) and Merser Road (560 feet). Bid information is as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Osburn Webster Road</u>	<u>Merser Road</u>
1. Doug Vann	\$4,200.00	\$2,250.00
2. Mark Bozman	\$4,455.00	\$2,025.00
3. Rick Jones	\$3,895.00	\$1,495.00
4. Gerard Dumsha	\$5,600.00	\$2,000.00
5. Chris Jones	\$2,144.75	no bid

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to award the contract for the Osburn Webster Road drainage project to the low bidder, Chris Jones, for his bid of \$2,144.75. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to award the contract for the Merser Road drainage project to the low bidder, Paul (Rick) Jones, for his bid of \$1,495.00. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner President Simpkins in opposition.

Mr. Steve Marshall, Director of Emergency Services, was now before the Board, accompanied by Vicki Lloyd, Emergency Planner, to present the Somerset County Shelter Plan for the Board's approval. Mr. Marshall highlighted the following sections of the Plan:

- Committee Members
- Activation and Decision Points
- Public Schools – Shelters
- DSS Participation
- Health Department Participation
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Animal Control Response
- Sheriff's Department – Activation Protocol

Mr. Marshall commended the Seton Center for their participation in the past for their contribution of food, clothing, and translators. Mrs. Lloyd stated their intention to marry the evacuation plan to the shelter plan. A shelter exercise will be held in the Department of Emergency Services on May 7, 2012.

Mr. Marshall advised the Board that a presentation to the State will take place in Reisterstown later this month and asked for the Board's approval and support of the proposed Shelter Plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to approve the proposed Shelter Plan and submit a letter of support to the State of Maryland. The motion carried unanimously.

The County Administrator reviewed correspondence and discussion items with the Board.

A request was received from the Somerset County Sanitary District to re-appoint Mr. Anthony J. Stockus to serve another six-year term as member of the Somerset County Sanitary Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to re-appoint Mr. Anthony J. Stockus to serve as member of the Somerset County Sanitary Commission for another six-year term. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board was advised by Governor O'Malley's Office that the term of Edgar F. Brimer III, member of the Somerset County Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board, will expire on June 1, 2012. In accordance with Tax-Property Article 3-103 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Board will submit three nominations for the Governor's consideration. The Board will revisit this request at their next regular meeting.

Mrs. Kimberly Widdowson, Assistant Director of Human Resources, was now present before the Board to present the renewal agreement for health insurance coverage for county employees. Mrs. Widdowson reported there was 0% increase in the premium costs and recommended the County stay grandfathered in the original healthcare program provided by BlueCross/BlueShield CareFirst.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to authorize President Simpkins to sign the renewal agreement with BlueCross/BlueShield CareFirst for health insurance coverage for county employees, and to remain grandfathered in the original healthcare program. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Taylor presented Resolution No. 1038 to the Board for their signature. This Resolution establishes the current rate of solid waste fees for Fiscal Year 2013, such as the landfill tipping fee, tire disposal fee, and the transfer station permit fee, effective July 1, 2012. Action was taken by the Board during their meeting of March 13, 2012 to set the fees.

Mr. Taylor also reminded the Board of the passage of Senate Bill 569 that became effective May 10, 2011, which allows the County to increase the Smith Island Solid Waste District Fee from the current rate of \$48.00 to an amount that is comparable to the costs incurred by other property owners in Somerset County for disposal of solid waste. Prior to the passage of the Senate Bill, the Somerset County Code of Public Local Laws, Section 8-201, limited the annual fee imposed under this section to an amount less than \$50 for improved, residential property; or \$100 for other improved property on Smith Island.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to increase the Smith Island Solid Waste District Fee from the current rate of \$48.00 per improved residential property to \$52.00 per improved residential property, in an effort to be consistent with the costs incurred by other property owners in Somerset County for the disposal of solid waste. The motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Laird in opposition.

The Board revisited a discussion from their March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding a request from Dr. Marjorie E. Miles, Superintendent for Somerset County Public Schools, to transfer funds among major categories for FY2012, as shown below:

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
\$40,000	Capital Outlay	Mid Level Administration

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, to approve Dr. Miles' request to transfer \$40,000 from Capital Outlay to Mid Level Administration for FY2012. The motion carried 4-0.

In an effort to update the membership of the Citizens Review/Grievancy Committee, the following action was taken:

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it was carried unanimously to re-appoint Ronnie Dryden to serve another term as member of the Somerset County Citizens Review/Grievancy Committee.

At the conclusion of the agenda, President Simpkins asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.

Mr. Dan Kuebler extended an invitation to the County Commissioners to attend tomorrow's meeting of the Workforce Alliance Board, to be held in Crisfield. Also, Mr. Kuebler encouraged the Board Members to visit The Caddyshack to view the repairs.

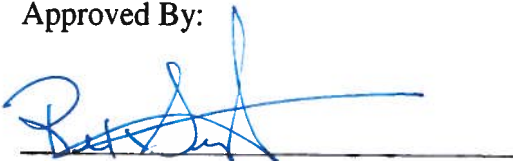
With no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to adjourn today's meeting. The motion carried unanimously at the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Cynthia R. Ward  
Executive Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County