

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2013

At 11:00 A.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 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 Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the meetings held December 17, 2013 (Open and Closed Sessions) as presented.

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

A project notification has been received from the Maryland Department of Planning, State Clearinghouse, regarding a Deed of Easement and Maintenance/Inspection Agreement of Private Stormwater Management Facilities between the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and EcoCorp. The purpose of the Easement is to allow Somerset County to maintain and inspect the stormwater facility. The Easement will be the sole benefit of state owned property; Eastern Correctional Institution. Based upon consultation with the County's Planning and Zoning Director, Gary Pusey, the County Administrator recommended the County respond with an R-2 designation with additional comments: "The agreement will not be given final approval or recorded by the County until the actual Stormwater Management Plan Design has been approved by the County."

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize the County Administrator to respond with an R-2 designation with additional comments, as noted above.

A Master Agreement from FAA was presented to President Simpkins for signature. The Agreement has been revised for AIP (Airport Improvement Program) projects to include the latest sponsor certifications.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 4-0 to authorize President Simpkins to sign the revised Master Agreement.

The Board reviewed a request to waive permit fees for Tabernacle Worship Center, located at 30063 Fairmount Road in Westover. On behalf of the Church, Greg Cox Renovations has asked for a waiver of the \$75 fee for a building permit and inspection of a replacement deck on the side of the church.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to waive the \$75 fee for Tabernacle Worship Center. The motion carried 4-0.

A grant mortgage release was presented to the Board for their consideration. Mrs. Delores Richards, of 8120 Mennonite Church Road, Westover, Maryland, received \$19,370 in housing rehabilitation funds in October of 2006. Under the terms of the grant mortgage, the property cannot be sold within a five (5) year period of the acceptance of the grant. Since the time period has passed, the mortgage terms are void and the debt is considered satisfied. A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to authorize President Simpkins to sign the Grant Mortgage Release for Mrs. Delores Richards. The motion carried 4-0.

In other business, Mr. Taylor reported that Maryland was not selected as a possible testing site for FAA – Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS); however, since Virginia Tech is a participant in the selected application, we may still receive consideration due to our proximity between Patuxent River Naval Air Station and Wallops Island Flight Facility.

The Board was advised of a request for a Proclamation, recognizing January as National Mentoring Month. A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to prepare the Proclamation. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board was also advised of a request received from Judge Long for assistance from ECI Annex – Community Work Crew, to move furniture for the Manokin Presbyterian Church from a storage unit in Princess Anne. Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to approve the request for inmate labor assistance.

At the conclusion of the agenda items for today's meeting, President Simpkins asked for any comments or questions.

Mr. Phil Riggin, of Crisfield, reported that the six sites that were selected as testing sites for UAV were listed in today's edition of The Daily Times. In a discussion regarding the

Disaster Recovery Funding, he spoke on the need to prioritize projects submitted for funding; and the need to hold a second public hearing to obtain public comment on the proposed projects.

At this time, the County Administrator advised the Board of the need for a Closed Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, to go into Closed Session authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 10-508 (a) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto. The motion carried unanimously. Also present for the Closed Session were Commissioner President Rex Simpkins; Commissioner Vice-President Charles Fisher; Commissioner Randy Laird; County Administrator, Ralph D. Taylor; and Executive Aide, Cynthia R. Ward.

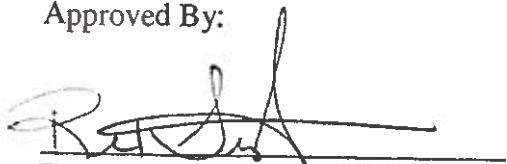
At 11:23 a.m., upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it was carried 4-0 to adjourn the Closed and Open Sessions.

Respectfully Submitted:



Cynthia R. Ward
Executive Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County