

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013

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 Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the meetings held February 12, 2013 (open and closed sessions) as presented.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance, appeared before the Board accompanied by Finith Jernigan, President of Design Atlantic Ltd, to review the bid information received during the Commissioners previous meeting, February 12, 2013, for the conversion of Westover Elementary School into a Commission on Aging Center. A letter of recommendation was submitted by Mr. Jernigan, Architect for the project, that the low bidder, Harper & Sons, Inc., be awarded the contract. A complete Bid Tabulation was also provided, as well as a Project Budget Summary outlining the projected construction costs, architect and engineering fees, and contingency funds. Mr. Cavanaugh and Mr. Jernigan both reported on satisfactory references that were received for Harper & Sons, Inc. Commissioner Fisher expressed his concern for their prior work on the Crisfield High School Renovation Project. Commissioner Boston asked for confirmation that Harper & Sons are the only bidder that is within the funding limit. At the conclusion of the discussion, the following action was taken:

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to award the contract to the low bidder, Harper & Sons, Inc. for their bid of \$1,079,000. The motion carried 4-0.

President Simpkins executed the documents associated with the contract award including a Notice To Proceed.

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

Letters were received from the Somerset County Library and the Somerset County Department of Technical and Community Services regarding re-appointments to the Library Board of Trustees and the Building and Plumbing Code Appeals Board. The Board took the following action:

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to re-appoint Donnie Price to serve another five-year term on the Library Board of Trustees.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 4-0 to re-appoint Ray Somers to serve another three-year term on the Building and Plumbing Code Appeals Board.

Mr. Taylor reminded the Board of a letter that was submitted to Dr. Marjorie Miles regarding the approval of an expenditure (not to exceed) \$21,000 for the repair of the Softball and Baseball Fields at Crisfield High School and Washington High School. This cost would be deducted from the \$200,000 that was allocated in the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for the repairs of the bleachers at Washington High School. Commissioner Fisher advised that Mr. Jefferson had planned to address this issue during his visit the previous week, but overlooked it. On February 15, 2013, Commissioner Fisher polled each Commissioner and upon receiving their approval, requested the letter be sent.

At this time, Commissioner Fisher made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to formally authorize the submittal of the letter to Dr. Miles approving the expenditure for the repair of the ballfields and the transfer of funds. The motion carried 4-0.

A Modification of a Commercial Loan for the Somerset County Sanitary Commission was presented to the County Commissioners for approval. The Modification changes the payment terms from monthly to quarterly. The change in payment terms was approved by the Sanitary Commission and the form reflected their signatures. Commissioner Laird inquired if the change would result in higher payments. A telephone call was placed to ascertain this information and the County Commissioners were advised that the change may result in a minor increase in interest charges since the amortization schedule was changing. Since the change had been approved by the Sanitary Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher,

seconded by Commissioner Boston, to authorize President Simpkins to sign the Modification Form. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Taylor presented a proposal to the Board for having lettering placed on the front of the County Office Complex to identify the building and improve the overall exterior of the building. Two options were shown:

- 1) Lettering and County Seal to be located near the top of the building. Estimated cost: \$3,745.02
- 2) Blue awning with lettering that would be placed over the front entrance. Estimated cost: \$2,571.27

A consensus was received to include it in the upcoming FY14 budget.

President Simpkins asked for the adoption of a Proclamation for Chief Scott Keller, Princess Anne Police Department, for his support in opposition to legislation that threatens the loss of our Second Amendment Rights.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was carried unanimously to adopt a Proclamation in recognition of Chief Scott Keller.

A letter of support was requested by the Town of Princess Anne for a funding application to rehabilitate the Washington Hotel to serve as a Heritage Transportation Center in an effort to promote heritage tourism and improve the local economy.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize President Simpkins to sign the letter of support for the Town of Princess Anne.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to authorize President Simpkins to sign a Lease with Zerbini Family Circus for May 4, 2013. The Board approved the Lease during their meeting of December 18, 2013, provided the Circus could supply the required insurance documentation.

Commissioner Fisher reported that the Somerset Committee for the Homeless is seeking donations of household goods for the Wood Home, a transitional housing facility.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh returned to the meeting to discuss Landfill tipping fees. The Board was reminded that tipping fees are no longer being waived for individuals, only church groups that are performing voluntary cleanup for Hurricane Sandy victims. As of March 1, 2013, the fee waiver for tree and brush debris will also end. A request has been received from Mitch Simpson, Case Manager for the Somerset County Long Term Recovery Committee, for a

waiver system that would allow dumpsters carrying storm related materials to be transported to the Landfill at no charge or a reduced charge. Mr. Simpson would screen the individuals requesting the services and monitor the waiver system in an effort to avoid misuse of the program.

Before addressing the request of Mr. Simpson, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to extend the fee waiver for tree debris that is received at the Messick Farm until June 1, 2013. The motion carried 4-0.

In regard to Mr. Simpson's request, the Board authorized Mr. Cavanaugh to contact Mr. Simpson and request he submit a proposal to implement the fee waiver system for the dumpsters hauling the storm related waste to the landfill. The request should be received within the next week.

In other landfill business, Mr. Cavanaugh reviewed the FY2012 Annual Report for the Solid Waste Department, including:

- a) Expenses
- b) Revenues
- c) Summary of Total Solid Waste 2002 → 2012
- d) Solid Waste Monthly Tonnage Report by Category – Fiscal Year and Calendar Year
- e) Transfer Station Report 2003 → 2013
- f) Transfer Station Box Hauling 2006 → 2012

Mr. Cavanaugh also reviewed estimated expenses for FY14 and projected revenue for FY14, including tipping fees calculated at the current rate of \$62/per ton which was enacted in FY12, and Transfer Station Permit Fees based on the current rate of \$52 which was enacted in FY07. Projected revenues were also shown if the Transfer Station Permit Fees were increased to \$54, \$56, \$58 and \$60. The Board will consider these options and take action at their next meeting to set the rates for FY14.

In conclusion, the Board discussed the hours of operation during the summer months for the transfer stations, in effect from May 1st to October 31st. A consensus was received to continue with the summer hours of operation.

Mr. Gerard Dumsha, of Princess Anne, appeared before the Board to express his concern for a newspaper article which appeared in the Crisfield-Somerset County Times on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 regarding drainage ditch bids that were awarded during the last County

Commissioner meeting. Mr. Dumsha provided the Commissioners with a copy of the article which he believed to reflect negatively on his work performance. President Simpkins assured Mr. Dumsha that negative comments were not made in regard to his work performance and apologized for any confusion that may have occurred. Commissioner Mathies inquired about previous projects Mr. Dumsha has performed for the County. Mr. Dumsha advised that he has been awarded mowing projects and other drainage projects.

At 3:09 p.m., the County Administrator advised the Board of the need for a Closed Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Jerry Boston, seconded by Commissioner Craig Mathies, to 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. Also present for the Closed Session were Commissioner President Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Randy Laird, Commissioner Vice-President Charles Fisher; County Administrator-Clerk, Ralph D. Taylor; and Executive Aide, Cynthia R. Ward; Internal Auditor, Sharon Muir, and Human Resources Director, Erica Quillen.

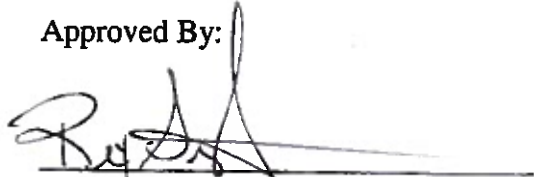
Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it was carried unanimously to adjourn the Open and Closed Sessions at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Cynthia R. Ward
Executive Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County