

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013

At 2:00 P.M., The Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County met in regular session with Commissioner President Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies, Sr., Commissioner Jerry S. Boston and Commissioner Randy Laird (Commissioner Fisher was absent from today's meeting).

Also present was Cynthia R. Ward, Executive Aide. The County Administrator was absent due to illness.

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.

President Simpkins opened sealed bids for three projects, as shown below:

Airport Mowing:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid for Two Cuttings</u>
1. Gerard Dumsha	\$3,200.00
2. Terry Nelson	\$3,150.00

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 3-0 to award the contract for airport mowing to the low bidder, Terry Nelson, for his bid of \$3,150.00 (for two cuttings).

Scrap Metal:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. Fitzgerald's Auto Salvage	\$191.50 per ton
2. Shultz & Sons Salvage	\$243.70 per ton
3. Salisbury Scrap Metal	\$207.00 per ton

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to award the contract for the removal (sale) of scrap metal from the Landfill to the high bidder, Shultz & Sons Salvage, for their bid price of \$243.70 per ton.

Lead Ditch Drainage (Jacksonville Road – Phase IV):

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
1. Doug Vann	\$8,944.75
2. Mark Bozman	\$9,475.00
3. Gerard Dumsha	\$24,175.00
4. Paul Jones & Son	\$4,995.00

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 3-0 to award the contract for the Lead Ditch Drainage Project to the low bidder, Paul Jones, for his bid of \$4,995.00.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Drainage, which was present for today's bid openings, also addressed another business item. Notice has been received from the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding their plans to participate in "Scrap Tire Amnesty Day". Somerset County has always been a participant of this event, however, the State has not sponsored the event since 2009. In previous years, 40 tons of scrap tires was received in 2008; and 43 tons received in 2009. Mr. Cavanaugh anticipates a large amount since the event has not been held for several years, and suggested the Board may want to limit the hours of operation. A limit of 50 tons is set by MDE. The County is required to pay any overages once we exceed the 50 ton limitation. After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to participate in the "Scrap Tire Amnesty Day", with a set schedule of 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with no limit on tonnage received at the landfill. The motion carried 3-0. The event date is to be determined.

Ms. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor, was now present before the Board to discuss the sponsorship of the Somerset County Library System and Somerset County Sanitary District to obtain primary liability and property insurance coverage through Local Government Insurance Trust. Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to approve the request for sponsorship of the two component units to obtain the insurance coverage through LGIT.

In the absence of the County Administrator, Mrs. Ward reviewed correspondence and discussion items with the Board.

A project notification was reviewed from the Maryland Department of Planning, State Clearinghouse, regarding the Monie Bay Field Center Construction Renovation. Federal funds, totaling \$72,690 are being requested by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to perform the renovation work. Mrs. Ward recommended Somerset County respond to the notification with an R-2 designation – indicating the project is generally consistent with our plans, programs and objectives contingent upon their ability to acquire the proper permits and adhere to the County's building code. Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 3-0 to respond to the project notification with an R-2 designation, as described above.

A letter was reviewed from Dorchester County Soil Conservation District asking for a donation of \$250 to support "The Land & Water Connection" Camp, held in June. During the previous year, Somerset County contributed \$250 and solicited the help of the 4-H Club to select a child to attend the Camp. Information was not available at this time on whether a student was able to attend the Camp. The Board agreed to sponsor a student once again, if there was participation last year. Upon motion made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to contribute the \$250 for "The Land & Water Connection" Camp to sponsor a student, contingent upon the participation of a student from Somerset County last year.

The Board was advised of a request for a letter of support for grant funding through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, under the Maryland Department of Planning. The grant request, submitted by Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Warner I. Sumpter, on behalf of the Somerset County Historical Society, Inc. and the Somerset County War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemorative Committee has requested \$22,500 to develop and publish a War of 1812 Lower Eastern Shore Historic Driving Guide and Story Board depicting the international, national and regional causes of the war, conduct of the War of 1812 and its effect on the Lower Eastern Shore. Additionally, the requested funding will assist with per diem costs for program and living historians (re-enactors) supporting interpretive programs. No funding commitment from the County is required. A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to provide the requested letter of support. Commissioner Mathies advised that he would like to have the opportunity to review the information that was provided to them before making a decision. The motion was then withdrawn.

The Board was reminded of a vacancy that exists on the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board. Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried unanimously by all present to appoint Johnny Murray to serve as member of the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board for a five-year term.

The Board was advised of outstanding property taxes, both state and county, due on Account Number 08-165300, described as Hangar 2 at the Crisfield Airport. The property is jointly owned with The City of Crisfield. In 2010, the Board of County Commissioners requested the County Treasurer to abate the county taxes and remove the Bay Restoration fee. The state taxes, however, were remitted to the Treasurer in the amount of \$7.62.

Mrs. Ward reported that taxes are now due for 2011 and 2012, for the amounts as shown below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
2011	\$56.56	\$8.51
2012	\$56.56	\$7.73

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to remit the state taxes that are due for 2011 and 2012, and ask the Treasurer to abate the county portion currently due, and for each year thereafter. The motion carried 3-0.

Mrs. Ward advised of two requests received for Proclamations:

- 1) Mt. Vernon Fire Department – 30 year anniversary
- 2) J. Millard Tawes Foundation – 30 year anniversary

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 3-0 to approve the preparation of the two proclamations, as described above.

Commissioner Boston stated that he was contacted by Mr. Matt Lankford with a request to appear before the County Commissioners to discuss the conditions of J.M. Tawes Vocational Center. Mr. Lankford attended a recent meeting of the Board of Education in which he made a brief presentation. The Commissioners approved the request and authorized Mrs. Ward to schedule an appointment for him.

Commissioner Mathies re-visited a discussion held earlier today - the request for a letter of support for grant funding through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, under the Maryland Department of Planning, submitted by Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Warner I. Sumpter, on behalf of the Somerset County Historical Society, Inc. and the Somerset County War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemorative Committee. After reviewing the information, Commissioner Mathies expressed his support for the request.

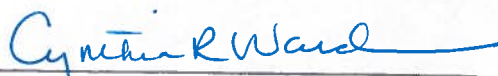
A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to provide a letter of support to Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Sumpter as requested. The motion carried unanimously by all present.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the meetings held March 26, 2013 and April 4, 2013 (open and closed sessions).

At 2:55 p.m., Mrs. Ward advised the Board of the need for a Closed Session. A motion was made by Commissioner Jerry Boston, seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird, 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 by all present. Also present for the Closed Session were Commissioner President Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies Sr., Director of Technical & Community Services, Gary Pusey; and Executive Aide, Cynthia R. Ward.


At 3:40 p.m., upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it was carried unanimously to adjourn the Closed and Open Sessions.

Respectfully Submitted:



Cynthia R. Ward
Executive Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County