

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 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 Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the meetings held July 30, 2013 and July 16, 2013 (Open and Closed Sessions) as presented.

President Simpkins opened sealed bids for three (3) ditch drainage projects, located in Cullen Parkway; on Main Street Extended; and on Deal Island Road. Bid information is as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Cullen Pkwy.</u>	<u>Main St. Ext.</u>	<u>Deal Isl. Rd.</u>
Doug Vann	\$2,250	\$3,789	\$2,150
Mark Bozman	\$3,950	\$3,450	\$2,800
Gerard Dumsha	no bid	\$1,675	\$1,100

After reviewing the bid information received, the Board awarded the contracts for the drainage ditch projects:

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to award the Main Street Extended project to the low bidder, Gerard Dumsha, for his bid of \$1,675.

The motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to award the Deal Island Road project to the low bidder, Gerard Dumsha, for his bid of \$1,100.

The motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to award the Cullen Parkway project to the low bidder, Doug Vann, for his bid of \$2,250. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Maintenance, Solid Waste, and Drainage, was present before the Board to report on several issues. He began by reporting that "Scrap Tire Amnesty Day" has been scheduled for September 28, 2013, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is sponsored by Maryland Environmental Service. Residents may dispose of any size tires at no cost at the County Landfill site only. A limit of ten tires per person is requested, however, additional tires will be accepted. Costs related to the event, such as advertising, containers, all costs related to the tire recycling (up to \$20,000) will be covered by MES. An agreement was presented to President Simpkins to hold the event in Somerset County.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize President Simpkins to sign the agreement for "Tire Amnesty Day".

At this time, Mr. Cavanaugh updated the Board on the MAC Center Project, located in Westover at the Behavioral Health Building. According to Mr. Cavanaugh, the Project is one-half to two-thirds complete with \$518,479.28 in total project funding spent to date. Roof trusses have been ordered; lights and windows will also be forthcoming in the near future. A Contract Change Order has been requested for the installation of handrails, which were not originally included in the specifications. This Change Order, estimated to cost \$17,049, will be covered by contingency funds, which were budgeted at \$92,474.

President Simpkins asked for confirmation that a Change Order required board action. Mr. Cavanaugh replied yes.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to approve the Contract Change Order, totaling \$17,049 for the installation of handrails in the MAC Center.

Mr. Cavanaugh briefly updated the Board on a sewer related problem at the Behavioral Health Building, in which the sewer line from the building had not been connected to the main line along the roadway. Mr. Cavanaugh explained that this problem relates back to the original construction project with Wheatley Construction and too much time has now elapsed to recoup any of the repair costs.

In other business, Mr. Cavanaugh updated the Board on the Crisfield Library project and a proposal to move the pole (security) lights from the sidewalk area inward towards the building. Conduit would be run underground for poles 1-5 to be relocated. Verizon, Delmarva Power, and Charter have been contacted. Mr. Cavanaugh proposes to use county employees to perform some of the work and estimates the cost to be \$50,000. This additional cost would be taken from contingency funds, which total \$472,000. The County Administrator recommended the funding source be contacted before proceeding with the change. If approved by the State, Mr. Cavanaugh will return at a later date for Board approval, as a Contract Change Order.

Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance Director, was now before the Board to present a Loan Resolution for approval and signature. In 2010, interim financing with M&T was approved for renovations at Washington High School. Permanent financing is now needed for the loan, totaling \$4,075,000. Following an advertised Request For Proposals, the Board selected SunTrust Bank for the permanent financing at a rate of 2.13% for a ten-year term.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to adopt the Loan Resolution presented today for the permanent financing for the Board of Education capital improvements. The motion carried 4-0.

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

Mr. Taylor reviewed a project notification from the Maryland Department of Planning, State Clearinghouse, regarding the environmental assessment and planned construction of the new Frederick Douglass Library on the campus of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Mr. Taylor recommended a response of "no comment".

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize the County Administrator to submit a response of "no comment".

President Simpkins was presented with the FY14 Rental Allowance Program Grant Agreement for signature. If approved, Somerset County will receive \$40,000 in funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for rental assistance to eligible recipients occupying eligible dwelling units.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to authorize President Simpkins to sign the FY14 Rental Allowance Program Grant Agreement. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board was advised of a request from the Town of Princess Anne for a letter of support to endorse their grant application for funds to develop a neighborhood park in the Beckford Avenue area. These funds would be used for demolition, lighting, fencing, and playground equipment.

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

A Certificate of Sale was presented to the Board for signature, for property located on Peters Avenue which was sold at the tax sale. As requested by The Town of Princess Anne, the County Commissioners agreed to assign all its rights, title and interest over to the Town's ownership.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to authorize President Simpkins to sign the Certificate of Sale, transferring the ownership of the Peters Avenue property over to The Town of Princess Anne. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board briefly discussed the LOSAP (Length Of Service Awards Program) Committee and the need to appoint a private individual to serve on the Committee, preferably someone not affiliated with emergency services.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to appoint Mr. Terry Pehan, of Crisfield, to serve as member of the LOSAP Committee. The motion carried 4-0.


The Committee will also be comprised of the President of the Ambulance Squads; President of the Fire Chiefs Association; Director of Emergency Services; and County Financial Officer.

At 2:45 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 Charles Fisher, 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 Craig N. Mathies, Commissioner Randy Laird, County Administrator-Clerk,

Ralph D. Taylor; Executive Aide, Cynthia R. Ward; Human Resources Director, Erica Quillen;  
and Maintenance Director, Charles Cavanaugh.

At 3:18 p.m., upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner  
Boston, 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