

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2014

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 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.

Mrs. Sherree Marshall, Director of Somerset County Commission on Aging, appeared before the Board to present the funding application for the "Statewide Specialized Transportation Assistance Program – Large Urban Transportation Assistance Program" and requested the Board's approval to submit the grant application. If approved, the Commission on Aging would receive \$117,447 in operational funding. Mrs. Marshall reported that \$59,624 is provided by her office as a soft match to the program.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to approve the submittal of the grant application.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance, was now present before the Board to discuss the following issues:

1. Bid information reviewed for the purchase of Waste Compactors and Containers for the Solid Waste Department. After a review of the bid information and a discussion regarding maintenance of the equipment, the Board voted to award the bid.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to award the contract to Mid Atlantic Waste for their bid of \$202,562.00. The motion carried 4-0.

2. Landfill Tipping Fees and Transfer Station Permit Fees for FY15 were discussed.

The Board will consider the information presented today regarding projected revenues and expenses before taking action to set the fees for the new fiscal year.

3. Hours of operation for the Transfer Stations was briefly discussed and the Board agree to continue with the same policy regarding summer hours.
4. Security Deposit Policy for Commercial Tipping Fees – Mr. Cavanaugh recommended the policy be eliminated since the \$50 security deposit, in most cases, would not cover the outstanding debt. According to Mr. Cavanaugh, there is currently an outstanding debt of approximately \$2,000 (or less). The Board will discuss it further and take action at a later date.
5. Mr. Cavanaugh asked for Board approval to purchase a 2000 MAC Truck for use as a back up vehicle to transport waste containers, in the amount of \$76,000. Funding was appropriated in his current budget for this purpose.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 3-1 to approve the truck purchase. Commissioner Laird, Commissioner Fisher, and Commissioner Mathies voted aye. Commissioner Boston opposed the motion.

Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Technical and Community Services, was now present before the Board, accompanied by staff members: Audrey Cornelius, Bob Sperry and Bob Cadwallader. Mr. Pusey updated the Board on the new floodplain maps issued by FEMA. The County will be required to follow the same procedure as carried out in March of 2011, in which public informational hearings will be held prior to the adoption of a new ordinance and the new maps, projected for late 2014. Ms. Cornelius presented a copy of the current floodplain map as well as the new proposed map, illustrating the changes and affected areas. Mr. Pusey also discussed the appeal process and recommended his Department (DTCS) serve once again as the designated office to receive appeal requests.

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

The Board was presented with Resolution No. 1072 for their approval and signature, a Resolution to support the submittal of an application requesting disaster recovery funding under the Maryland Community Development Block Grant for eligible projects in Somerset County, Maryland, in the total amount of \$16,726,410 (project amount plus administrative costs).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to adopt Resolution No. 1072.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to adopt a Proclamation in recognition of Frederick W. Nelson for 40 years of service as a District Supervisor for the Somerset Soil Conservation District.

The Board was presented with two Agreements for approval and signature:

1. Exclusive Use Agreement with Princess Anne Little League Baseball, beginning April 1, 2014 and expiring July 15, 2018.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize President Simpkins to sign the Agreement.

2. Messick Farm Lease, which was amended to reflect a reduction of 3.3 acres, was signed by the Lessee, James Beauchamp, and presented to the Board for signature. The Lease terminates December 31, 2015.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize President Simpkins to sign the Lease Agreement.

The Board was reminded of an existing vacancy on the Somerset County Tax Assessment Appeal Board, to serve in the position formerly held by Christine Allen. A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to recommend the appointment of Harry B. Gemmell Jr. to the Tax Assessment Appeal Board. The motion carried 4-0.

A request was received from the Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Department to utilize county-owned property that is located adjacent to the Somerset County Civic Center for parking during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Firemen's Fest, June 28, 2014. Maintenance of the grounds (mowing, mosquito spraying) was also requested.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to approve the requests. The motion carried 4-0.


Before concluding the meeting, President Simpkins called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the meetings held February 4, 2014; February 11, 2014; and February 18, 2014 (both open and closed sessions). Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to approve the Minutes as presented.

With no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to go into Closed Session by 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; and Section 10-508 (a)(7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. The motion carried 4-0. Also present for the Closed Session were Commissioner President Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies Sr., Commissioner Randy Laird, County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Aide Cynthia R. Ward, County Attorney Kirk Simpkins, Pastor Phil Huber, Gary Pusey, Charles Cavanaugh, Gail Sheldon, Deborah Parker, and Gene Adkins.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 3-0 to adjourn the Open and Closed Sessions at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Cynthia R. Ward  
Executive Aide

Approved By:

  
Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County