

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 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.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 4-0 to approve the Minutes from the Open and Closed Sessions held July 29, 2014 and July 22, 2014.

President Simpkins opened sealed bids for the sale of surplus property, as advertised in the Crisfield-County Times and the Somerset Herald on July 23, 2014 and July 30, 2014 (bid information is attached to these Minutes). Action will be taken by the Board to award the bids at their next regular meeting, August 26, 2014.

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

A Proclamation designating the Month of September 2014, as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Week" in Somerset County, was presented to the Board for approval and signature. Upon motion made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried unanimously to approve the Proclamation.

A request was received from Tri-County Council Executive Director, Michael Pennington, to re-appoint Mr. Joey Gardner to serve another four-year term as member of the Workforce Investment Board. Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to re-appoint Mr. Gardner to serve another term on the Workforce Investment Board, pending his acceptance of the appointment.

A letter from Debora Huddleston, Princess Anne Town Manager, was reviewed by the Board in regard to two properties: 11459 Peters Avenue and 11464 Beckford Avenue. In the

letter, Ms. Huddleston acknowledged that the Town of Princess Anne failed to file suit to foreclose the right of redemption on the Peters Avenue property, after the County had agreed to assign the Town their interest. Since the tax sale certificate is no longer valid, Ms. Huddleston has asked the County to reassign their interest for the Peters Avenue property to the Town of Princess Anne. After consulting the County Attorney, Mr. Taylor reported that the Board cannot reassign their interest, however, a tax sale can be held by the County at any time. The Town would then have the opportunity to obtain the Peters Avenue property at the sale, provided they were the high bidder.

Also, they have asked the County to assign the tax sale certificate for the Beckford Avenue property to the Town. At the conclusion of the discussion, the following action was taken:

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to authorize the County Attorney to hold a tax sale for the property located at 11459 Peters Avenue, with the associated costs and fees being the responsibility of the Town of Princess Anne, provided they are the high bidder. The motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to assign the tax sale certificate for 11464 Beckford Avenue to the Town of Princess Anne, with all associated costs and fees being the responsibility of the Town of Princess Anne. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board reviewed a letter from Kim Lawson, Mayor for The City of Crisfield, regarding a request to reprogram a portion of Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery Funding for economic development in Crisfield. Mr. Taylor recommended a letter be sent to City Officials asking them to identify specific projects for economic development to ensure that they meet funding guidelines. The Board agreed with this recommendation.

Somerset County Recovery Committee, Inc. submitted three (3) requests to waive landfill tipping fees for demolition materials from the following locations:

- 1) 9899 Carrollton Court, Westover
- 2) 12 Walnut Street, Crisfield
- 3) 204 Myrtle Street, Crisfield

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to waive the landfill tipping fees associated with the roof repair of the property located at 9899 Carrollton Court in Westover.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to waive the landfill tipping fees for the demolition of the property located at 12 Walnut Street in Crisfield.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to waive the landfill tipping fees for the demolition of the property located at 204 Myrtle Street in Crisfield.

Mr. Mark Konapelsky, Code Enforcement Officer, with the Department of Technical & Community Services, was now present to review the bid information that was received on Tuesday, July 29, 2014 for the construction of four (4) replacement houses for applicants that qualified for funding under the Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery Program. The following information was provided to the Board regarding the bids:

1) 4292 Lawson Barnes Road:

Project was removed from procurement. Originally the house located at Tawes Vo-Tech was to be purchased and moved onto location. Due to the high cost of moving the structure this option was no longer feasible. This project will be rebid as stick built house built on location.

2) 26392 East Pear Street:

Low bidder, R&L Construction, has been removed from the bid due to lack of mandatory bid bonding. Eastern Shore Construction was second lowest bidder but was not considered for this bid since they were awarded a bid in the first round of homes and still has not received a C/O for the property. Progression of the project is slow and multiple jobs would not be feasible at this time. They are also considered for the contract on the Jacksonville Road project. Therefore, Regent Homes, the next lowest bidder, is recommended for the bid award.

3) 4282 Jacksonville Road:

Low bidder, R&L Construction, has been removed from the bid due to lack of mandatory bid bonding. Eastern Shore Construction is the second lowest bidder and is recommended for the bid award.

4) 8382 Sybil Road:

Lowest Bidder, R&L Construction, has been removed from the bid due to lack of mandatory bid bonding. RAD Construction is second lowest bidder and is recommended for the bid award.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to award the contract for 26392 East Pear Street to Regent Homes, for their bid of \$157,500.00.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Laird, it carried 4-0 to award the contract for 4282 Jacksonville Road to Eastern Shore Construction, for their bid of \$154,000.00.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to award the contract for 8382 Sybil Road to RAD Construction for their bid of \$155,521.00.

Ms. Rota Knott, Executive Director of Somerset County Local Management Board, appeared before the Board to present the FY2015 Community Partnership Agreement for approval and signature. Ms. Knott reported that the Agreement being presented today is the same as the previous year's contract. If approved, the Agreement shall provide funding for the following LMB programs:

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| \$ 57,536 | Local Access Mechanism |
| \$140,784 | K is for College |
| \$ 25,435 | Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol |
| <u>\$ 65,000</u> | (Program Administration) |
| \$288,755 | Total Funding Request |

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize President Simpkins to sign the FY15 Community Partnership Agreement.

Mr. Steve Marshall, Director of Emergency Services, was now present before the Board to request the approval of a Damage Assessment Plan, a plan that is designed to assist in determining the extent of property damage incurred after an event, and also to establish the need for state or federal assistance. Mr. Mark Konapelsky (DTCS) and Mrs. Vicki Lloyd (Emergency Planner) were also present for the meeting. The Department of Technical and Community Services will serve as the lead agency for the teams that will be certified to perform the damage assessment. Team members can be identified by their blue vests with Damage Assessment on the back and by the County Identification Card they carry. Mrs. Lloyd advised that the teams will hold an exercise on August 19th.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to approve the Somerset County Damage Assessment Plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

In other business, Mr. Marshall addressed a radio signal problem in the vicinity of Mt. Vernon, near Reading Ferry Road and New Road. According to Mr. Marshall, it is not uncommon to have areas in which radio transmissions are difficult, particularly with seasonal changes. In order to correct the problem, additional radio equipment would be placed at Mt. Vernon Fire Department. A room would have to be constructed on the second floor of Mt. Vernon Fire Department, with electric and air conditioning installed for the radio equipment.

The estimated cost for this enhancement of the radio system is \$15,000. Mr. Marshall also noted that a similar situation exists in Crisfield, in the Somers Cove area known as "Knot's Landing". After a brief discussion, the Board voted to fund the radio improvements for both Mt. Vernon and Crisfield Fire Departments.


A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to authorize Mr. Marshall to proceed with the proposed radio enhancement for Mt. Vernon Fire Department. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, to authorize Mr. Marshall to proceed with the proposed radio enhancement for Crisfield Fire Department. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Randy Laird, seconded by Commissioner Jerry Boston, 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. The motion carried 4-0. Also present for the Closed Session were Commissioner President Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Vice-President Charles Fisher, Commissioner Craig Mathies, County Administrator, Ralph D. Taylor; and Executive Aide, Cynthia R. Ward.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Laird, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to adjourn the Open and Closed Sessions at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


Cynthia R. Ward
Executive Aide

Approved By:


Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

BID OPENING RESULTS - SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY

| | Item 1 | Item 2 | Item 3 | Item 4 | Item 5 | Item 6 | Item 7 | Item 8 | Item 9 | Item 10 | Item 11 | Item 12 | Item 13 | Item 14 |
|---|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| BIDDER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Franzella Starkey (did not meet bid specs) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thomas H. Smith III | | | \$ 5,150.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jay Reading | | \$ 1,100.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clifton Taylor | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$ 800.00 |
| Clifton Taylor | | | \$ 1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clifton Taylor | | | | | | \$ 955.00 | | | | | | | | |
| Lisa Nagley | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Janet and Timothy Drimal | | | | \$ 5,551.00 | | | | | | | \$ 4,000.00 | | | |
| Wesley Townsend | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$ 2,001.00 | |
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• Deposits (10%) Received With All Bids