

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015

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

Also present were Ralph D. Taylor, County Administrator-Clerk and Lory E. Ebron, Administrative Aide.

President Laird called the meeting to order and asked Commissioner Simpkins to lead those attending the meeting in the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting minutes were approved later in the meeting.

Mr. Mark Konapelsky, DTCS came forward to accept sealed bids with regard to two Crisfield Housing Authority projects as follows:

10 Transformers & 10 Transformer Pads

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Carter's Electric	\$91,850.00
East Coast Underground	\$72,016.66
Dvorak Electric	\$107,700.00

39 Double Furnace Rooms & 19 Single Furnace Rooms

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Top Notch Drywall	\$1,212,500.00
Delmarva Veteran Builders	\$986,700.00

Mr. Konapelsky advised the Board that he would review the submissions, and provide his recommendation at the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Gary Pusey, Director DTCS was now before the Board to present the Maryland Community Development Block Grant- Subrecipient Agreement-Disaster Grant/Job Training for the Boards consideration. This funding is a part of Grant # MD-14-DR-1 Phase #3 which totaled \$2.94 million, and included new home replacement, economic development activities and job training. He explained that the subrecipient agreement being presented today is for the allocated amount of \$100,000 that will be used for job training to be performed by Somerset County Public Schools. The Board of Education (BOE) will hire and pay the contractors who will be providing the training, and the county will reimburse the BOE. Mr. Pusey advised that Attorney

Kirk Simpkins has reviewed the agreement presented, and found it legally sufficient. Mr. Pusey then requested approval for the President's signature on the agreement as presented.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the President was authorized to sign the Maryland Community Development Block Grant-Subrecipient Agreement-Disaster Grant/Job Training as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Dr. John Gaddis and Ms. Daniele Haley from Somerset County Public Schools were asked to come forward to present the FY17 Capital Improvement Plan. Dr. Gaddis first explained that the Capital Improvement Plan is a requirement of the State, and needs the Somerset County Commissioners approval for final submission to the Maryland Public School Construction Program. Ms. Haley then reviewed the plan with the Board, noting that there are two project requests for FY17; the State funded request for the Crisfield High School/Head Start Renovation Addition and continuation of local planning approval for a replacement for the J. M. Tawes Technology & Career Center. The current reconfiguration of the Head Start addition was provided, and the benefits of adding the Head Start facility to Crisfield High School were discussed. The Board was then asked their approval for the President's signature on the letter drafted that will be sent to Dr. Lever verifying the Board received, reviewed and are in support of the project requests contained in the FY17 Capital Improvement Plan.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to authorize the President's signature on the letter drafted to Dr. David Lever as presented.

Ms. Haley then directed the Boards attention to the FY16 Educational Facilities Master Plan. A progress report was provided regarding Greenwood Elementary and Princess Anne Elementary, as well as the Crisfield Athletic Field. It was noted that budgetary limitations will not allow the installation of lighting to the field at this time.

While still present, Mr. Taylor asked Dr. Gaddis to explain the 2015 Somerset County Public Schools Annual Update. Dr. Gaddis stated that the report is a draft document that projects out 5 years as to what the county school system needs to do to meet its goals and objectives. He noted that plan is updated every year, and is based on data analysis to identify challenges, reviews of programs and practices, and identify where adjustments are needed. Amendments to

the plan are anticipated next spring when the data is received back. He also explained that the focus of the plan is student college and career readiness, and he explained the various ways to meet the standard requirement. Dr. Gaddis and Ms. Haley left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Taylor presented Ordinance No. 1099 for the Boards approval relating to the amendment to Ordinance No. 1029 (Forest Conservation Ordinance or FCO). A public hearing regarding the amendment to the FCO was held on November 3, 2015, to correct text that had been inadvertently omitted during the 2011 update. Mr. Taylor advised that there were no comments received during the hearing or the 10 day period following the hearing. He then requested the Boards approval of Ordinance 1099 as presented.

Therefore, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston to approve Ordinance No. 1099, amending the FCO as presented. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence with the Board at this time.

Notification from the State of Maryland has been received stating that they have approved Ms. Paulette Collins to be reappointed as a member of the Somerset County Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board.

Mr. Taylor reviewed the letter sent to Ms. Cindy Stone, Maryland DHCD, regarding the Rhodes Point Project dated November 9, 2015. The letter requested an exception to the procurement policy through the Grant Agreement requiring bid advertisement on projects greater than \$10,000. Additionally the letter requested a waiver to the procurement requirements for competitive bidding so that the county can select the construction firm that is completing the Martin project. Mr. Taylor summarized the reasons for the request that were detailed in the letter. Mr. Taylor advised our office has not yet received a response from Ms. Stone as of yet.

The minutes from the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on November 3, 2015 were approved as written on a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher. The motion carried 4-0.

With no further business, Mr. Taylor advised the Board of the need to enter into closed session. Therefore, at 2:36 p.m. on a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously 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) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to adjourn the Open and Closed Sessions at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Lory E. Ebron  
Administrative Aide

Approved By:

  
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Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County