

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 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 Craig N. Mathies, Sr., Commissioner Rex Simpkins, and Commissioner Jerry S. Boston.

Also present was Ralph D. Taylor, County Administrator-Clerk; Cynthia R. Ward, Executive Aide; and Shannon L. Evans, Executive Secretary.

President Laird 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 unanimously to approve the minutes from Open and Closed Sessions held April 7, 2015 and Closed Session from March 31, 2015.

Mr. Gary Pusey, Planning Director, was now present before the Board with Mark Konapelsky and Kymberly Kudia to discuss four proposals:

1. **M.O.A for Demolition of Property:**
Mr. Pusey is requesting approval of a Memorandum of Agreement for the demolition and replacement of a home to be built at 11 Somerset Avenue in Crisfield. This property is located in the Historic District of Crisfield and will be built to be compatible with the historic and architectural qualities of the surrounding Crisfield Historic District. This project will have the stipulation of replacing the roof at the Crisfield Museum at 1012 W. Main Street to be compatible with the historic and architectural qualities of the surrounding Crisfield Historic District. A motion was made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to authorize Commissioner President Laird to sign the Memorandum of Agreement. The motion carried unanimously.
2. **Non-Federal Sponsor's Self-Certification of Financial Capability for Agreements:**
With approval of this Agreement, Somerset County will provide \$518,210 in Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery Funds for the Feasibility Study of the tidal dike project located southeast of Crisfield, to be carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher to authorize Commissioner President Laird to sign the Non-Federal Sponsor's Self-Certification of Financial Capability for Agreements. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **DNR Grant Application – Stormwater Management Landowner Agreement:**
These are agreements allowing the installation of two stormwater retrofit projects at the County owned property at 11916 Somerset Ave., Princess Anne, MD and two stormwater retrofit projects on the County owned property at 8920 Sign Post Road, Westover, MD. A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Mathies to authorize Commissioner President Laird to sign the Landowner Project Agreements. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Grant Agreement – Critical Area Program:**
Mr. Pusey is requesting approval to apply for a state grant of \$15,000 for the use of covering a portion of the cost his office incurs from implementing the Critical Area Ordinance. A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, authorizing Commissioner President Laird to sign the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Grant-In-Aid Program agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A letter was received from MD. Department of Planning, State Clearinghouse regarding the Rhodes Point jetty project. Mr. Taylor recommended that this be coded a C-5 and respond back to the Clearinghouse review board. A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Boston, and carried unanimously to respond to the Clearinghouse review board with a designation of C-5.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, and carried unanimously to sign a Grant Mortgage Release for Viola Allen of 13828 Frank Cornish Rd., Princess Anne, MD in the amount of \$11,685.00. Ms. Allen was the recipient of a housing rehabilitation loan in January of 2007.

Mr. Taylor presented a Memorandum from Gary Pusey Planning Director regarding re-appointments on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Two members' terms are expiring this month, Bill Cottman and Donald Price. A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, and carried unanimously to re-appoint Bill Cottman to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Further, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, and carried unanimously to re-appoint Donald Price to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Board was presented with a letter from Kay Parkinson, Chairperson of the Somerset County Adult Guardianship Review Board requesting recommendations for two vacancies, an attorney representative and a citizen representative, on the Somerset County Adult Guardianship Review Board. Action is not required today; however Mr. Taylor asked the Commissioners to consider candidates for appointment to be discussed at a later date.

A letter was presented to the Board of County Commissioners from Valerie Howard at the Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce requesting help with Chamber events from ECI inmates for the Tawes Crab & Clam Bake and the National Hard Crab Derby. After a brief discussion regarding the inmate work program, the following action was taken:

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried unanimously to permit ECI inmates to assist the Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce with set up of the Tawes Crab and Clam Bake and the National Hard Crab Derby.

The Board was then presented with the Proposed Capital Improvement Program for the Crisfield Airport. Mr. Taylor discussed the need to move forward with mitigation and obstruction easement acquisition services for fiscal year 2016. The amount, totaling up to \$650,000, would be forward funded by the county. In fiscal year 2017, we would seek a grant to reimburse those funds. A handout dated April 7, 2015 labeled "Option 1" outlining the proposed ACIP was presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, and carried unanimously to approve the Airport Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Taylor will contact the City of Crisfield to seek their concurrence.

The Board reviewed a request to assist with burial expenses for the Todd Family. A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies to send \$1000 to the Bennie Smith Funeral Home to help cover burial expenses for the Todd Family. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor asked permission from the Board to auction surplus properties on the same day of the Tax Sale. A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, to auction surplus properties at the Tax Sale. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor discussed the aquaculture project as proposed by J. Mark Kitching and Robert Floros, Application No.1 2013-02247, and presented a letter for signature stating Somerset County has no opposition to the project. A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to authorize President Laird to sign the letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor expressed the need to fill a vacancy on the Workforce Investment Board to replace Dan Kuebler whose term is expiring. A motion was made by Commissioner Mathies, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, to appoint Ron DeClement. Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Boston, and Commissioner President Laird abstained from the vote and the motion failed.

Mr. Taylor then advised of a need to enter into closed session. A motion was made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, and carried unanimously to enter 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.

Mr. Phil Riggin, 4930 Thomas Long Road, Crisfield, asked for an exception to speak although he had not signed up to do so. A motion was made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, and carried unanimously to return to open session.

Mr. Riggin expressed his appreciation to Gail Sheldon along with Doug Taylor and all others involved in the Crisfield Library Project. Mr. Riggin also expressed his gratitude for the work session from last week regarding the Airport Tree Obstruction Project and asked that the Board please take advantage of the flexibility that the FAA is offering.

With no further input from the public, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, and 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.

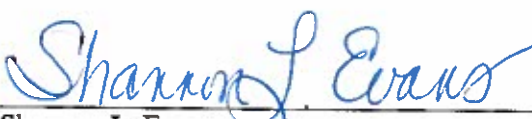
Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried unanimously to adjourn Open and Closed session at 3:15 p.m.

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted By:



Shannon L. Evans
Executive Secretary