

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 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, Commissioner Craig Mathies, Sr., and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

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 Mathies to lead those attending the meeting in the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Boston advised of a correction needed to the minutes presented from the July 28, 2015 meeting as follows: "Commissioner Boston inquired if it would be permissible for his daughter-in-law, who is an attorney, to serve on the Adult Guardianship Review Board". Ms. Ebron acknowledged the correction needed, and upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to accept the minutes with the correction noted from the Open and Closed Session Meetings held Tuesday, July 28, 2015. The Special Session and Closed Session meetings held August 4, 2015 were also presented at the same time. Commissioner Simpkins abstained the motion to approve the minutes from August 4, 2015 Open and Closed Session meetings.

Mr. Taylor called Mr. Mark Konapelsky and Ms. Carlene Wells, Department of Technical and Community Service, to come forward. Sealed bid submissions received with regard Hurricane Sandy damaged homes were opened and read aloud as follows:

1012 W Main Street, Crisfield, Md. (Roof Replacement):

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Peninsula Roofing	\$53,900.00

11 North Somerset Avenue, Crisfield, Md. (Home Replacement):

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
RAD Construction	\$308,935.00
Farina Construction	\$260,477.00
Harkins Contracting Inc.	\$307,155.00
Ken Build	\$219,780.00
Vernon Esham	\$225,301.00

Mr. Konapelsky stated his department would review the submissions received, and return with a recommendation at the next scheduled Commissioners meeting.

Next, Mr. Danny Thompson, EDC Executive Director, was now present before the Board to present the MEDAAF grant agreement in the amount of \$65,000 to fund the costs of expanding broadband in the Princess Anne Industrial Park. After explaining the purpose of the grant, Mr. Thompson requested the President's signature for the grant as presented.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried unanimously to approve the President's signature on the MEDAAF grant, in the amount of \$65,000, to fund the costs of expanding broadband in the Princess Anne Industrial Park.

Mr. Tom Lawton was now asked to come forward to discuss the rezoning ordinance request for the property described on Tax Map 5, Grid 3, Parcel 56, presented during the public hearing held on July 28, 2015. Mr. Lawton reported that there were no comments received during the 10 day period. The process of the request to change the present zoning of High Density Residential R-3 to General Commercial C-2 was reviewed, and in closing he stated that the current zoning in place was the result of an error made during the 2001 Comprehensive Rezoning of the County. Mr. Lawton then requested the Boards approval of Ordinance No. 1097 and the Findings of Facts, to amend zoning Map No. 5, Grid 3, Parcel 56 from High Density Residential (R-3) to General Commercial (C-2).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 1097 and the Finding of Facts, amending zoning Map No. 5, Grid 3, Parcel 56 from High Density Residential (R-3) to General Commercial (C-2).

Ms. Ivonne Lomax was now present to inform the Board about the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). She began by thanking the Board for having her here to explain the program which provides services to both youths and adult programs in Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset County. Noting she was present to seek the support and blessing from the Board to create new creative ways to fund these programs, Ms. Lomax explained that there are currently four vendors participating in the program, one of which is in Somerset County. She explained that funding has decreased and advised the Board of a Request for Proposal (RFP) that is up for bid through Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Concerns

were expressed that due to decreased funding, the WIOA program may end up with only one vendor.

Commissioner Fisher made the motion to support the program initiatives for the WIOA program as offered by the Lower Shore Workforce Alliance. Commissioner Boston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ms. Yvette Cross and Ms. Vicky Lloyd of the Emergency Services Department and Mr. Randy Nunn from MEMA were now before the Board to present the Somerset County Department of Emergency Services Mass Casualty Incident Plan. Ms. Cross explained that both she and Mr. Marshall approved the plan, which is part of the standard operating procedure. Ms. Lloyd continued, explaining the development process of the plan, and the table top exercises that have taken place using the scenario of a school bus accident. She also noted that the plan is a part of the grant requirement. Mr. Nunn added that the plan drafted is consistent with State plans. He also advised that a more “realistic” exercise will be held in October using school bus that has been donated for the test event.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to approve the Mass Casualty Plan as presented. Mr. Taylor also thanked Ms. Cross for the excellent job she has been doing in Mr. Marshall’s absence.

Mr. Taylor proceeded with correspondence and discussion items at this time.

We have received notice that the Department of Natural Resources has awarded a grant request for Program Open Space funding in the amount of \$5,000 for the Princess Anne Little League Complex Rehabilitation to reconstruct the pitcher’s mound, batting and infield areas of four existing baseball fields.

A request for the waiver of permit fees in the amount of \$600.00 was received from Oriole Historical Society, for the St. James Church renovation project at 27405 Oriole Road.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to approve the waiver of permit fees in the amount of \$600.00 for the renovation to St. James Church in Oriole. The motion carried unanimously.

A request was received from Ms. Alice Bromley from the Somerset County State's Attorney's Office, Child Support Division requesting a letter from the Board to terminate the use of Labcorp for paternity testing. The office had been advised by the state that effective October 1, 2015, they will no longer be allowed to use Labcorp for those services.

On a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to authorize the President's signature on the termination letter as presented.

A letter of support to the Maryland Energy Administration for the Biomass Project being proposed by Atlas Energy Technologies in Somerset County, south of Princess Anne, on property owned by Chesapeake Renewable Energy, to process 20 tons of chicken litter per day and produce power, biofuel and fertilizer was presented for the Board's consideration.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, the President's signature was authorized on the letter of support as presented. Commissioner Mathies abstained; therefore the motion carried 4-0-1.

With regard to current board vacancies, Commissioner Boston made a motion to nominate Mr. Cary Knopp to the Adult Guardianship Review Board. Commissioner Fisher seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Commissioner Boston advised he will also follow up with his daughter-in-law as to her interest in serving as the attorney appointment on this board.

Commissioner Mathies made the motion to appoint Mr. Clifton Harcum as a nominee to the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board. Commissioner Simpkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

With no further business, at 2:40 p.m. on a motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, 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.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to adjourn the Open and Closed Sessions at 3:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Administrative Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County