

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 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 Craig Mathies, Sr. Commissioner Rex Simpkins was absent from today's meeting.

Also present were Ralph D. Taylor, County Administrator-Clerk, Lory E. Ebron, Administrative Aide and Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance.

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.

Meeting minutes were approved later in the meeting.

Mr. Cavanaugh was present for the drainage ditch maintenance bid openings for the following projects:

Bidder:	Bid Amount:
<u>College Backbone Road</u>	
Doug Vann	\$2,082.00
Mark Bozman	\$3,200.00
Gerard Dumsha	\$4,290.00
Paul Jones	\$2,880.00

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to award the bid for the College Backbone Road project to Doug Vann in the amount of \$2,082.00.

<u>Whitehaven Ferry Road</u>	
Doug Vann	\$3,379.00
Mark Bozman	\$3,925.00
Gerard Dumsha	\$7,200.00
Paul Jones	\$3,800.00

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to award the bid for the Whitehaven Ferry Road project to Doug Vann in the amount of \$3,379.00.

<u>Asbury Avenue Phase III</u>	
Doug Vann	\$7,235.00
Mark Bozman	\$11,200.00
Gerard Dumsha	\$14,600.00
Paul Jones	\$6,650.00

After a short discussion, and upon recommendation by Mr. Cavanaugh, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, to award the bid for the Asbury Avenue Phase III project to Doug Vann in the amount of \$7,235.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Byrdtown Road

Doug Vann	\$3,865.00
Mark Bozman	\$2,950.00
Gerard Dumsha	\$3,000.00
Paul Jones	\$2,890.00

Upon recommendation by Mr. Cavanaugh, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, to award the bid for the Byrdtown Road project to Mark Bozman in the amount of \$2,950.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Mathies questioned if Mr. Vann is qualified to be awarded multiple bids.

Mr. Cavanaugh advised that the projects, individually will take from 1½ to 2 days each, therefore Mr. Vann should easily be able to handle the projects. Mr. Cavanaugh was excused from the meeting at this time.

Mr. Mark Konapelsky and Ms. Carlene Wells came forward to present the bid award recommendation regarding the Hurricane Sandy projects received during the last Commissioner meeting held on August 11, 2015. After review of the bids submitted, the recommendation was made to award the bid for 11 North Somerset Avenue to Ken Build in the amount of \$219,780.00. Mr. Konapelsky noted that Ken Build was the low bidder for this project, and has done excellent and timely work for the county on past projects.

Therefore, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to award the 11 North Somerset Avenue project to Ken Build in the amount \$219,780.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Next, Mr. Konapelsky noted the sole bid received from Peninsula Roofing in the amount of \$53,900.00 regarding the roof replacement for 1012 W Main Street. He explained this project is unique, as it is a mitigation job located within the Crisfield historic district. He advised that for this reason, the project came in over bid by \$3,900; however the State has approved the overage. He closed in saying that the bid submitted meets the requirements of the Heritage Foundation.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Mathies, and seconded by Commissioner Boston to award the bid for the roof replacement at 1012 W Main Street to Peninsula Roofing in the amount of \$53,900.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor asked Ms. Rota Knott, Executive Director, Local Management Board (LMB) to come forward. Ms. Knott was before the Board to present the FY16 Community Partnership

Agreement between the State of Maryland and Somerset County for approval and signature. Ms. Knott proceeded to explain the funding breakdown for the LMB program as provided below. The total funding request presented for fiscal year 2016 totaled \$288,755, the same amount as last year.

Four new programs for this fiscal year were presented as follows:

\$14,979	Raising a Reader
\$15,000	Children Safe Initiative
\$14,707	Active Parenting
<u>\$ 6,200</u>	Healthy Village Hands
\$50,704	

The remaining programs continuing to be funded were also noted:

\$ 29,435	Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol
\$138,434	K is for College
<u>\$ 5,000</u>	Local Access Mechanism
\$172,869	
\$65,000	Administrative

Ms. Knott closed by explaining the monitoring of the programs as well as the vendor application process. She also discussed the structure for LMB funding, noting anticipated revisions that are expected to be made.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, authorizing the President's signature on the FY16 Community Partnership Agreement as presented. Commissioner Mathies abstained; therefore the motion carried 3-0-1.

Dr. John Gaddis, Superintendent, Somerset County Public Schools came forward to request permission to make Categorical Transfers to close out the FY 14-15 budget. Joining Dr. Gaddis were Mr. Tom Davis, Assistant Superintendent and Linda Johnson, CFO. Dr. Gaddis explained the eight areas of transfer requests, stating the transfers listed below were approved during last Tuesday's Board of Education meeting:

Administration	\$ 80,000
Mid-Level Administration	\$150,000
Instructional Salaries	\$ 60,000
Other Instructional	\$ 50,000
Special Education	\$350,000
Operation of Plant	\$ 50,000
Maintenance of Plant	\$ 80,000
Capital Outlay	<u>\$150,000</u>
Total:	\$970,000

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to approve the categorical transfers as presented by Dr. Gaddis for FY16.

Ms. Patricia Mannion, Somerset County Social Services Director, and Ms. Michele Canopii, of Catholic Charities-Seton Center were now present before the Board to request approval for the submittal of an application to Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for funding through the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Upon award of this grant, Seton Center will receive \$145,000 (\$65,000 federal/\$80,000 state) funding for targeted programs. Ms. Mannion also mentioned that there may be a less need for funds as their office has been working with an architect to build a new shelter. They are hoping to break ground in the spring of 2016. Mr. Taylor complemented Ms. Canopii on the great job she did preparing the ESG grant for the Boards approval.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, the Board authorized the President's signature on ESG application as presented. Commissioner Fisher abstained; therefore the motion carried 3-0-1.

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

A clearinghouse review request was received regarding a feasibility study and environmental assessment of Janes Island and Cedar Island as well as Great Point to examine alternatives to reduce erosion along the shoreline and reduce risk of damages from flooding or wave action. Mr. Taylor recommended a C-5 designation for this project (It is consistent with our plans, programs and objectives).

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston and carried unanimously to designate a C-5 response for the feasibility study and environmental assessment of Janes and Cedar Islands as well as Great Point as presented.

The Board was advised that landowner Frederick Howard has proposed to donate a perpetual conservation easement on his 30.20 acre property located at Revell's Neck Road to the Maryland Environmental Trust.

Department of Natural Resources notified that they have received our grant request in the amount of \$4,500 for Upper Hill Park Improvements.

Mr. Taylor presented a request from It Takes A Village to Help Our Children to extend their lease agreement regarding Whittington Primary School which ended May 5, 2015. They have requested the lease agreement be revised to a month-to-month term. Mr. Taylor was in agreement with their proposal, and requested the President's signature on the lease prepared by County Attorney Simpkins.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher and carried unanimously to authorize the President's signature on the lease agreement as presented.

The Board reviewed correspondence received from the Safe for Somerset organization that expressed concerns regarding Pioneer Green's intent, and also requested a Smart Solar plan that would set down specific county requirements for solar installations.

Mr. Taylor addressed the letter received from the City of Crisfield that pertained to the Obstruction Removal Project Alternative for Crisfield-Somerset Airport. The City has requested the county wait 6 months before acting on their decision to choose Alternative 4, to allow the City time to develop an economic development plan that will address the future value of the airport as a component of that plan. They also expressed their concerns relating to the closure of the grass runway. Mr. Taylor noted that the clearing of the asphalt runway is a separate process that is already in the mitigation phase, and will have to be completed regardless on the decision made for the removal of obstructions. It was Mr. Taylor's recommendation to the Board to continue, and complete that portion of the project. Mr. Taylor stated he has contacted the City, and the City Manager was in agreement with his recommendation. No action was required, and the Board agreed to move forward with the project underway regarding the asphalt runway.

With Ms. Mannion still present, the Board addressed the vacancy on the Somerset County Board on Homeless following the retirement of Ms. Jenny Roser. Ms. Mannion advised that Ms. Carey Kelley is Ms. Roser's replacement. The Board requested Ms. Kelley to fill Ms. Roser's vacancy. Ms. Mannion agreed with the request.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to appoint Ms. Carey Kelley to serve as a member of the Somerset County Board on Homelessness. Additionally, she will serve as the local representative for Somerset County.

Commissioner Boston advised that his daughter-in-law, Kristen Boston, has offered to serve as the attorney member on the Adult Guardianship Review Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies to nominate Ms. Kristen Boston to serve as the Attorney Member on the Adult Guardianship Review Board. Commissioner Boston abstained; therefore the motion carried 3-0-1.

Mr. Taylor advised the Board of term expirations regarding the Citizen Review Board. Three members have agreed to continue serving; Mr. Keith Muir, Mr. Ronnie Dryden and Mr. David Tawes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to re-appoint Mr. Muir, Mr. Dryden and Mr. Tawes to the Citizen Review Board. The motion carried unanimously. It was noted that vacancies still exist in Districts 1 and 3.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to accept the minutes as written from the Open and Closed Session Meetings held Tuesday, August 11, 2015.

President Laird asked if there was anyone present at the meeting today wishing to speak.

Ms. Tammy Truitt came forward to address the Board. Ms. Truitt questioned if personal property tax is owed on the Solar Farm project located on Coston Road. She also questioned the letter of support provided by the county for the BioMass project (referring back to the personal property taxes still owed on the Costen Road Solar Farm project), and what benefits will be gained to the county by supporting this project. Mr. Taylor advised that the county is looking into the personal property tax issue, and is awaiting a response from the state assessment office regarding the error. Ms. Truitt closed her comments by stating that more concrete guarantees on benefits to the county should be obtained before supporting a proposed project.

Mr. Terry Pehan of Annemessex Ridge was now present before the Board. Mr. Pehan asked if the mitigation process has begun on the 13 parcels, as he has not received any correspondence. Mr. Taylor advised that it is his understanding that the process has started, and some individuals have advised him that they have received letters. Mr. Pehan also asked if the county has heard back from Ms. Lutz as to if there was any indication of FAA review of the draft

EA, as it goes hand in hand with the mitigation process. Mr. Taylor advised we have not heard back on the review as of yet.

With no further business, Mr. Taylor advised the Board of the need to enter into closed session. Therefore, at 3:00 p.m. on a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, 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 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Administrative Aide

Approved By:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County