

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2016

At 2:00 p.m., the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County opened in Regular Session. Present for the meeting were Commissioner President Randy Laird, Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies Sr. and Commissioner Jerry S. Boston. Commissioner Rex Simpkins was not in attendance at this time.

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

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

Commissioner Simpkins arrived to the meeting at this time.

Meeting minutes for the Commissioner's Meeting held on February 9, 2016, the Work Session meeting held on February 16, 2016, and the Closed Session meeting held on February 9, 2016 were approved as presented upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Taylor asked Ms. Sherree Marshall, Commission on Aging, to come forward. Ms. Marshall presented her request for the Boards authorization to apply for the Statewide Special Transportation Assistance Program (SSTAP) in the amount of \$117,447. She explained that this grant will fund transportation services to the elderly and handicapped.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to authorize Ms. Marshall to apply for the SSTAP grant as requested.

Next, Mr. Gary Pusey and Ms. Donna Laird were asked to come forward. Also accompanying them were Mr. Aaron Goller and Mr. Andrew Welch from Davis, Bowen and Friedel.

President Laird proceeded to open and read aloud sealed bids received with regard to the Crisfield Street Rehabilitation Project, Contract No. 044A020 as follows:

| <u>Bidder</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Bid Bond</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Chesapeake Paving | \$1,137,540.00 | Yes |
| George and Lynch, Inc. | \$1,190,443.61 | Yes |

Mr. Pusey advised that this project encompasses 6 streets within the City of Crisfield and includes drainage, curb and gutter work. The bids will be reviewed, and a recommendation will be made at a later time.

Next, President Laird proceeded to open and read aloud sealed bids received regarding the Crisfield City Dock Bulkhead Project, Contract No. 044A021.A01 as follows:

| <u>Bidder</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Bid Bond</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Marine Technologies | \$708,710.00 | No |
| Murtech, Inc. | \$569,628.00 | Yes |

It was noted that Marine Technologies did not provide the required bid bond. Mr. Pusey, Ms. Laird, Mr. Welch and Mr. Goller were excused at this time.

Mr. Mark Konapelsky now came forward to accept sealed bids received regarding replacement housing for a Hurricane Sandy damaged home. Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

| <u>Bidder</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Bid Bond</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Ken Build | \$133,800.00 | Yes |
| Three Guys Contractors | \$179,255.00 | Yes |
| Parsons Group LTD. | \$167,500.00 | No |
| Farina Construction, Inc. | \$134,950.00 | Yes |
| RAD Construction | \$138,880.00 | Yes |

Mr. Konapelsky advised that he will review the bids submitted and report back with his recommendation.

Mr. Gary Pusey and Ms. Donna Laird were now again present before the Board to receive the Boards approval for the President's signature on the following sub-recipient agreements related to Hurricane Sandy funding:

Cove Street Lift Station/Crisfield- Mr. Pusey stated that this agreement explains that the county will do all of the procurement, with the City of Crisfield providing the county with any needed data or requests presented by DHCD. He advised that the City will be the recipient, and has already signed off on the agreement. County Attorney Simpkins has reviewed the agreement and found the document to be adequate.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize the President to sign the subrecipient agreement for the Cove Street Lift Station as presented.

Maryland Avenue Well Generator- Mr. Pusey explained that the county will make the purchase of the generator for the City, who again will be the subrecipient. He then requested approval for the President's signature.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to authorize the President's signature on the Maryland Avenue Well Generator subrecipient agreement as requested.

Crisfield Housing Authority Relocation Study- Mr. Pusey stated that the Housing Authority will be the subrecipient, and has already signed off on the agreement. Attorney Simpkins has reviewed the document and found it acceptable. The county will provide procurement for the bidding of a consultant and the Housing Authority will provide any needed information, such as the number of low to moderate person's benefiting from the study.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the Crisfield Housing Authority Relocation Study subrecipient agreement as presented.

Next, Mr. Pusey presented his department's recommendation for the contract award with regard to the Crisfield Housing Authority Relocation Study. After noting the Request for Proposal was advertised in the Washington Post and Baltimore Sun papers in January, as well as being distributed to consultants by DHCD and HUD, one response was received from Design Atlantic Ltd., in the amount of \$69,750.00. Mr. Pusey advised that this consultant has experience working with Housing Authorities, and is familiar with Somerset County and the Crisfield Housing Authority. He then requested the Board's approval to award the bid as presented.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to award the Crisfield Housing Authority Relocation Study bid to Design Atlantic Ltd., as presented. Mr. Pusey and Ms. Laird left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Julie Widdowson, Tourism Director, was now present before the Board to present FY16 Destination Marketing Organization Grant Agreement in the amount of \$26,203.00 for the President's signature. She explained that this grant will fund marketing and promotion activities.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to authorize the President's signature on the FY16 Destination Marketing Organization Grant Agreement as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Simpkins left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh was now present before the Board to discuss his recommendations regarding Transfer Station Permit Fees and Landfill Tipping Fees for fiscal year 2017. He first discussed the current commercial tipping fee rate of \$66.00 per ton, assessed to the City of Crisfield, Town of Princess Anne and the Sanitary District, although it was noted that the City of Crisfield may be contemplating contracting their trash removal services. Mr. Cavanaugh advised it was his understanding this matter may be discussed at their next meeting scheduled for tomorrow night.

Following a short discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston to have the commercial tipping fee remain at \$66.00 per ton, on the stipulation that the City of Crisfield continues their trash collection procedure as they have been previously doing. The motion did not carry at this time as Commissioner Simpkins returned to the meeting.

President Laird explained the motion currently made and seconded on the floor. Commissioner Mathies questioned if Mr. Cavanaugh had a preference, being that the city's meeting for tomorrow was mentioned. Mr. Cavanaugh noted that he feels there will need to be a separate discussion held should the City chose to contract their trash removal services out to a contractor. He stated that he would like the rate set today so that the City are aware prior to making their decision, in that the rate will be remaining the same.

Following the discussion, the motion on the floor carried 5-0 to have the tipping fee rate remain the same at \$66.00 assuming the City continues to handle their own trash removal as previously motioned and seconded.

Mr. Cavanaugh continued the discussion, providing his projected tipping fee revenue should other tipping fee rates be increased. He also provided an estimate of revenue should all rates remain the same. Also discussed was the current fees being charged by Wicomico and Worcester Counties.

Mr. Taylor recommended, unless it is critical that the decision be made today, that the Board consider deferring their final decision on the other commercial fee rates until after budget deliberations. He noted fees do not go into effect until July 1, 2016.

Following the discussion, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to have the tipping fee remain at \$66.00.

Lastly, Mr. Cavanaugh presented the current transfer station fee schedule. Mr. Cavanaugh discussed the total number of permits issued last year, stating the total remained consistent with last year. It was noted that an additional \$30,000 in revenue was generated through the sale of the second permit per household fee of \$25.00.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to have the fees remain the same, at \$56.00 for the first permit, and \$25.00 for the second permit.

In closing, Mr. Cavanaugh briefly discussed the tipping fee, and consideration of raising it next year, as well as what the charge should be should the City of Crisfield chooses to go with an outside contractor for trash removal. Commissioner Mathies advised that all commercial customers should be charged the same rate. Mr. Cavanaugh left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Taylor continued the meeting with correspondence and discussion items at this time.

Mr. Taylor reviewed the letter received from the City of Crisfield advising that during their meeting held on February 10, 2016, City Council decided to endorse Alternative #4 for the proposed Obstruction Removal project. However, there were several conditions attached to the agreement as presented, which were reviewed. Mr. Taylor advised the Board that he would contact the consultant regarding the requests presented, and report his findings back to the Board.

A request was received from the Marion Fire Department to waive permit fees for the installation of an electronic sign to be placed at their location.

Following review of the request, upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to approve the fee waiver request in the amount of \$425.00 as presented.

Mr. Taylor presented the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) Grant Agreement MAA-GR-16-030 for the President's signature. This grant, in the amount of \$5,810.00 will be used to offset the cost of mower equipment needed. The cost share breakdown was presented (75/25), and it was stated that the final cost to the county would be \$726.00. It was also noted that two bids were received, with one of the bidders offering an alternative unit; that was not requested in the proposal. The recommendation was made to award the bid to Hoobers Farm Equipment in the amount \$5,810.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to authorize President Laird to sign the MAA Grant Agreement as presented in the amount of \$5,810.00 as presented. Commissioner Simpkins abstained; therefore the motion carried 4-0-1.

Mr. Taylor addressed the letter of support received from Teackle Mansion, originally presented during the Commissioner meeting held on February 9, 2016. At that time, the Board requested that additional information be obtained to determine if this grant would conflict with the grant being requested for the 350th Celebration. Mr. Taylor reported that both Kim Lopez and himself has spoken with Lisa Ludwig who explained that the grants being requested will not compete against each other, as one will be presented as a 'project' grant, and the other as a 'capital' grant. Ms. Ludwig also noted that she would anticipate both grant requests receiving approval.

Therefore, upon a motion made Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the letter of support for Teackle Mansion's grant submission as requested.

Mr. Taylor then presented the letter of support request from Somerset Historic Trust, with regard to their grant submission relating to Somerset County's 350th Celebration, to be held on September 17, 2016. Mr. Taylor requested approval of the President's signature on the letter of support as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, authorizing the President to sign the letter of support from Somerset Historic Trust relating to their grant submission as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

The Board was advised of the need of a Closed Session. Therefore, at 2:54 p.m., upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it 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; and Section 10-508 (a) (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried unanimously to adjourn the Open and Closed Session Meetings at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Administrative Aide

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County