

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR SOMERSET COUNTY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016

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 Rex Simpkins, and Commissioner Craig N. Mathies Sr.

Also in attendance were County Administrator-Clerk Ralph D. Taylor and Executive Secretary Kimberly Lopez.

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.

The minutes from the Regular Session and Closed Session meetings held July 26, 2016 were approved upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Fisher. This motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Sherree Marshall was before the Board now to request their approval of the Senior Center Operating Grant in the amount of \$83,321.00.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, this motion carried 5-0 to approve the Senior Center Operating Grant.

Next, Dr. Ray Hoy, President of Wor-Wic Community College, came before the Board to present the Economic Impact Scholarship Program. This program provides free tuition for high school graduates who enroll full-time in Wor-Wic Community College. With this being a success in Wicomico County, Dr. Hoy expressed his interest to extend this program to Somerset County residents. During the presentation, Dr. Hoy discussed the program cost to the State, the Economic Impact Scholarship goals and benefits, criteria for this program, and provided a draft legislation for the Board to review.

The Board inquired about students who participate in Votec and why this program would appeal to them since most of them take these specialty classes to obtain jobs straight from high school and aren't looking to attend college. Dr. Hoy explained that credits these students earn with the Votec program will apply to their credits required for graduation, giving them a head start.

A few other questions were presented regarding dual enrollment, campus expansion, and what would happen if a student dropped out of the program. Dr. Hoy explained that students who participate in dual enrollment will receive a full refund for what they completed in high school after they've successfully completed one year of the program. He also advised the Board that Wor-Wic has the capability to build three additional buildings if needed, however they currently have more than enough room. Dr. Hoy then addressed the question of students dropping out of the program and explained that if that were to happen they would not be allowed to participate in it again as this program is an incentive to keep students in school (of course special exceptions can be made for illness, emergencies, etc).

With no further questions, Dr. Hoy requested an acknowledgment from the Board as to whether they would like for Senator Mathias and Delegate Otto to proceed with legislation for the Economic Impact Scholarship Program.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Board acknowledged they would like for Senator Mathias and Delegate Otto to proceed with legislation for the Economic Impact Scholarship Program. This motion carried 5-0.

At this time, Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of the Department of Technical and Community Services, Mr. Tom Lawton, Senior Planner, and Mr. Bob Sperry, Zoning Inspector, were now before the Board to present the recommended changes to the Poultry House Development Standards Ordinance from the Work Session held August 2, 2016.

President Laird recused himself from this discussion and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Vice President Fisher.

The Board reviewed the changes made and requested additional wording be added clarifying that individuals who have submitted either a complete stormwater management plan or having made application for a Zoning Certificate prior to the ordinance's effective date shall be exempt from the requirements stated within the ordinance. Also, applications for Zoning Certificates are to be site-specific and are transferable to a third party transferee.

A consensus was given for Mr. Pusey to make these changes.

Mr. Pusey advised the Board he would do so and bring the revised ordinance later in the meeting for their approval.

Commissioner Fisher then turned the meeting back over to President Laird.

Moving on to correspondence, Mr. Taylor advised the Board we received the MD Department of Housing and Community Development FY 16 Housing Bond Allocation and requested the Board's approval of President Laird's signature on the documents.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to approve President Laird's signature on the FY 16 Housing Bond Allocation.

Next, Mr. Taylor addressed a letter sent from Mr. James Ports, Deputy Secretary of Operations for the Maryland Department of Transportation, discussing legislation that passed and additional required documentation that would be needed for each project request. A follow-up letter, from the Maryland General Assembly, to Mr. Ports' letter was read aloud next stating that they respectfully disagreed that the Act places any such requirements on local government. These letters were provided for information purposes only, and no action was required.

Mr. Taylor then advised the Board of a memorandum from Mr. Gary Pusey stating he's received a request from Mr. Chris Curtis, on behalf of Mr. David Mason owner of Chesapeake Boats, to waive the permit fees associated with rebuilding this property due to a recent fire.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Board voted unanimously to waive the permit fees for Mr. David Mason for the rebuild of Chesapeake Boats.

Next, Mr. Taylor advised the Board that Mr. Ray Benson, System Facility Administrator of the ECI Annex, received a request from Mosquito Control requesting to use inmate labor to sandblast and paint their amphibious excavator (this has been approved by the State).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, the Board approved the request for inmate labor to assist Mosquito Control with sandblasting and repainting their amphibious excavator. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Taylor informed the Board that a letter of support request was received from Dr. Bhaskaran Subramanian, Ph.D., Shoreline Conservation Service Section Chief, for a shoreline erosion project for the Deal Island area.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, to approve the letter of support for the shoreline erosion project for Deal Island. This motion carried unanimously.

Next, Mr. Taylor presented letters of sent correspondence, which included the following:

- Letters addressed to The Honorable Charles Otto and The Honorable James Mathias, Jr. in regards to the FY 17 Proposed Legislation (Correcting the Somerset County Code)
- A letter to The Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy in regards to the Rhodes Point Jetty Project reminding them of the importance of this project and the request for funding.
- Letters to the Citizen's Review Board
- A letter to Mr. Gary Pusey in request to a waiver of fees for the MD Dept. of Human Resources.

Moving on to discussion items, Mr. Taylor presented the Cooperative Reimbursement Contract for MD Child Support; the maximum amount to be paid by DHR is \$162,663.00, the total local cost to the county is \$98,759.00, which makes the total cost of the program \$261,442.00. Mr. Taylor then requested a motion authorizing President Laird's signature on the documents.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Fisher to approve President Laird's signature on the Cooperative Reimbursement Contract for MD Child Support.

Mr. Taylor then advised the Board that due to the benefit cost ratio the USACE will not be able to build the Breakwater. They are however looking into other means and non-construction ways to raise it and mentioned possibly raising homes in Crisfield. In reference to the Tidal Dike, the USACE looked at eight scenarios with six them having benefit cost ratios that supported the project. With that said, the Corp will not be able to complete the Tidal Dike due the cap of funds they can allocate to this project (\$5 million when the estimated cost for the project is \$23 million).

Next, Mr. Taylor advised the Board that the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board was in need of one appointment, preferably someone in law enforcement or the state's attorney's office.

Mr. Taylor also advised the Board of two vacancies on the Local Management Board, and requested the Board find nominees for those appointments as well.

Mr. Taylor informed the Board of a vacancy on the Social Services Board, and stated that Ms. Verbala Patel requested to fill that vacancy.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Verbala Patel to the Somerset County Social Services Board.

The Board was then advised of the need of a Closed Session, so therefore at 3:00 p.m., the Board entered 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.

The Board resumed Regular Session at 4:22 p.m. to review the revised Poultry House Development Standards Ordinance.

President Laird recused himself from this discussion and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Fisher.

The Board reviewed the changes made per their suggestions made earlier in the meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Boston to approve the Poultry House Development Standards Ordinance. This motion carried 3-1 with Commissioner Mathies voting against approving the ordinance as he does not approve of the changes made to the tunnel fan setbacks; stating that he felt the distance the Board of Commissioners suggested was too drastic of a change from what the Planning Commission recommended.

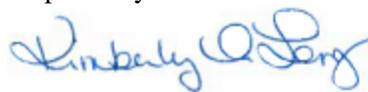
Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried unanimously to adjourn the Open and Closed Session Meetings at 4:30 p.m.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Kimberly Lopez
Executive Secretary