



**AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY**

Correspondence

Received

Maryland Aviation Admin., re: Proclamation for 2016 General Aviation and Community Airport Month

Sent

Dr. John Gaddis, Somerset County Public Schools re: Additional FY16 Inter-Category Transfers
Sheriff Ronnie Howard re: Local Gov't. Justice Reinvestment Oversight Commission Appointment

Appointments:

- 2:00 p.m. - Mr. Jim Ports and Mr. Donnie Drewer
 - Maryland Department of Transportation Consolidated Transportation Program Tour
- 2:30 p.m. - Mr. Clint Sterling
 - Bid Opening- 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation 5 Year Plan
- 2:35 p.m. - Mr. Mark Konapelsky
 - Bid Opening - Replacement Housing/Disaster Recovery
 - 319 Locust Street, Crisfield, MD
 - 336 Pine Street, Crisfield, MD
- * 2:45 p.m. - Ms. Yvette Cross
 - Memorandum of Agreement with Various Pharmacies/Veterinary Offices
- * 2:50 p.m. - Mr. Danny Thompson
 - Resolution- Somerset County/Crisfield Enterprise Zone

Discussion:

- * 1. Request for Waiver of Landfill Fees- Ms. Ruby Ring
- * 2. Request for Waiver of Landfill Fees- Ms. Elizabeth Wallace

3:00 p.m. - Closed Session – Ralph D. Taylor

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; and Section 10-508 (a) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 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 Jerry S. Boston, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies, Sr., and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

County Administrator-Clerk Ralph D. Taylor, and Executive 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.

Meeting minutes were presented for the Boards approval. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to approve the Commissioner and Closed Session meeting minutes from September 6, 2016 as presented.

Mr. Taylor next welcomed Mr. James F. Ports Jr., Maryland Department of Transportation to the meeting to present the 2017 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for 2017-2022. Mr. Ports began by thanking the Board, and noting that Secretary Rahn was unable to attend the meeting today as he is in Israel with Governor Hogan. He then introduced staff accompanying him here to the meeting today that included Mr. Greg Johnson, Mr. Greg Slater, Ms. Beth Kreider, Mr. Richard Norman and Mr. Ashish Solanki. Also recognized was Mr. Donnie Drewer, District Engineer, who will be retiring this year. Mr. Ports stated that this will be the last CTP Tour meeting Mr. Drewer will be attending. He expressed his gratitude to Mr. Drewer who he described as a huge asset, and a big loss to the department upon his retirement.

Mr. Ports also thanked the Board for attending the meeting held during MACo last month, advising that they were able to address some of the issues regarding Somerset County such as the Biking Trail on Route 413, the \$40,000 grant for the Smith Island Feasibility Study, and Chapter 36; the newly established scoring and ranking system, to determine the county's eligibility for projects. He stated the system will not be implemented this year however the bill will be in place for projects not currently underway and going forward. He stated the effects of the bill are not desirable for Somerset County, as county population is a strong basis for the

scoring. He also urged the Board to speak with Legislators about the bill, and its negative impact on the county. He discussed the Hogan administrations continuing commitment to the Maryland transportation network, in the amount of \$14.4 billion dollars, with 53% going towards Maryland roads and bridges. Noting there are more projects currently under construction now (1073), totaling \$7.9 Billion dollars, the highest in Maryland's history, Mr. Ports provided a brief review of the recent and current bridge projects which included the Route 13 Bridge in Pocomoke and the bridge over Kings Creek. Also added to the Kings Creek bridge project was an acceleration lane which should be completed by this October. He also discussed an upcoming project this fall in the amount of \$1.8 million at Jones Road and Old Eden Road to resurface and add a median crossover.

Regarding Highway Revenue Funding, Mr. Ports stated that \$2.3 million has been allocated for the 6 year period for Somerset County, Crisfield and Princess Anne. After presenting the new Maryland license plate design, Mr. Ports discussed last year's total fatalities of #521 in Maryland, which is unacceptable, and the areas of highest concern. Mr. Ports encouraged the county to consider adopting the DOT Strategic Safety Plan, which has been NHTSA approved, as the county's plan to help save lives. He also reviewed the Smith Island Feasibility Study and the Crisfield – Somerset County Airport grant for land acquisition.

The amount of Highway User Funding, the Rt. 413 Bike Trail and Chapter 36 (scoring system) were discussed further. Concern of how the scoring system calculates, and the disadvantage it places on the smaller counties in Maryland was also expressed. In closing, the Board individually stated their appreciation to Mr. Drewer and all of the support he has given to Somerset County over these many years.

President Laird then recognized our legislative representatives and other county leaders present today, and invited them to speak.

Senator James Mathias came forward to address the Board. He began by noting the Mayor of Crisfield; and thanked all those present today. He also thanked Secretary Rahn and Governor Hogan, who were unable to be here, for their action. He discussed the Pocomoke Bridge project, as well as the beginnings of the third Bay Bridge span crossing project. He also thanked the Commissioners for the county's 350th Celebration event held last Saturday, noting that Somerset County was the mothership of the eastern shore, with Worcester and Wicomico counties being birthed from Somerset County.

Delegate Charles Otto came forward. He discussed the UMES Round-A-Bout project, including sidewalk improvements completed in Princess Anne and Crisfield. His bewilderment with regard to the one page project report for Somerset County was noted. He also touched on the Pocomoke Bridge and Stockyard Road projects. Delegate Otto also discussed concerns regarding the safety of Route 413, mentioning the recent fatality of Ms. Joyner. He questioned if there are safety features available that could be implemented to prevent this type of tragedy from happening again, it would be appreciated. He closed his comments by stating how much of an asset the airports are to our counties and he appreciates the administration's continued support of our airports. He also thanked Mr. Drewer for his years of service, noting that there are plans to dedicate some of the roadways after the District Engineer if it can be worked out.

Mayor Kim Lawson was now before the Board. He first noted his appreciation for the elegant, but simple (in a Somerset way) 350th Celebration; thanking the Board and Mr. Clint Sterling. Celebrating our longevity, he reviewed the past two years for Crisfield as a final result of much hard work since the occurrence of Sandy on October 29, 2012; and described the work, and plans that were originally laid out by Mr. Drewer, that have recently been completed on Crisfield sidewalks, streets and roads. He also noted that 67% of Somerset County is considered Critical Area, and how the county's marshlands and greenery work as the filtration system of the bay for other counties, and asked that this be kept in mind when discussing infill and impervious surfaces.

A short recess was taken to while the participants left the meeting.

Mr. Clint Sterling, Recreation and Parks Director was now before the Board to accept/open sealed bids received with regard to the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation 5-Year Plan. President Laird proceeded to open the sealed bids received as follows:

<u>Bidder:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Design Atlantic	\$42,510.60

President Laird noted that the amount was stated as an "estimate" on the documents submitted. Mr. Sterling advised that he would review the submission to ensure it meets state requirements and provide his recommendation at the next commissioner meeting scheduled for October 4, 2016.

Mr. Mark Konapelsky was before the Board regarding sealed bids received for Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery for replacement housing. President Laird proceeded to open the sealed bids received for the following projects:

<u>Bidder- 319 Locust Street, Crisfield, MD:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	<u>Bid Bond:</u>
Eastern Shore Construction	\$164,900.00	Y
Farina Construction	\$189,900.00	Y
Ken Build	\$199,500.00	Y
<u>Bidder- 336 Pine Street, Crisfield, MD:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>	
Eastern Shore Construction	\$169,000.00	Y
Tom Farina	\$170,000.00	Y
Ken Build	\$180,400.00	Y

Mr. Konapelsky advised the Board he would like to review the bids submitted and return with his recommendation at the next scheduled commissioner meeting.

Ms. Yvette Cross was now before the Board to present Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) for various local pharmacies and veterinary offices for the Boards consideration. She explained that during the last emergency shelter meeting, it was determined that there was a need to update the MOA's. These agreements will allow the distribution of medications at the shelters during emergency situations if necessary for both animals and individuals.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the MOA's as presented.

Mr. Danny Thompson, EDC Executive Director was before the Board to present Resolution #1113, authorizing an Enterprise Zone Application that will cover parcels of land within the City of Crisfield and Somerset County. The resolution authorizes the renewal of the existing zone, as well as the proposed expansion that includes portions of the city limits of Crisfield and extending along Route 413 to the Crisfield-Somerset Airport.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathies and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, approving Resolution #1113 as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence and discussion items with the Board at this time.

A letter was received form the Maryland Aviation Administration in support of the Maryland Airport Manager's Association and the Alliance for Aviation Across America, proclaiming September 2016 as General Aviation and Community Airport Month in Maryland.

A proclamation, signed by Governor Hogan, was included with the letter. Mr. Taylor advised the Board that the proclamation will be displayed at the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport.

A letter was sent to Dr. John Gaddis, Superintendent of Somerset County Public Schools advising of the board's approval of additional Inter-Category Budget Transfers and Amendments as requested.

Sheriff Ronnie Howard was advised in writing of his appointment to serve as a member of the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Commission.

A request was received from Ms. Ruby Ring to waive Somerset County Landfill Tipping Fees. In the letter, Ms. Ring advised that she has two old chicken houses she no longer uses, one of which is no longer standing. She does not have insurance on the structures, and due to financial hardship, she is requesting the board waive the tipping fees to have the houses removed.

Following the discussion, which included the fact that the waiver of tipping fees will be made on a case-by-case basis, a motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies to approve Ms. Rings request for the waiver of tipping fees at the county landfill. Commissioner Fisher abstained, and President Laird opposed; therefore the motion carried 3-1-1.

A request for a waiver of landfill tipping fees was also received from Ms. Elizabeth Walker. In her letter, Ms. Walker advised that the roof on her home, purchased in December 2015 needs to be replaced. Due to financial hardship, and her age (65 years old), she requested the Board consider a waiver, or discount of tipping fees, as the roof removal will be very costly being there are four layers.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, the Board approved Ms. Walker's request for a waiver of tipping fees at the County Landfill for the disposal of four layers of shingles as requested. Commissioner Fisher and President Laird opposed the motion; therefore the motion carried 3-2.

With no further business, the Board was advised of the need to enter into Closed Session. Therefore, at 3:22 p.m. upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 5-0 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; and Section 10-508 (a) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried unanimously to adjourn the Open and Closed Session Meetings at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide



Approved by:
Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County