



**AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 6, 2016
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY**

Correspondence

Received

- * MD of Planning re: Clearinghouse Review/Enhancing Ecosystem and Community Resilience on Deal Island
- * DHCD, Mr. Kenneth Holt re: Matching Funds/Down Payment Assistance for Priority Funding Areas
DHCD, Mr. Kenneth Holt re: Catholic Charities Seton Center Award Approval
MD Department of Transportation re: CTP Tour Schedule
FAA re: Crisfield-Somerset County Airport (Runway 14/32 Obstruction Removal)
- * Clean Chesapeake Coalition re: Invitation to Participate
Charter Communications re: Channel Addition

Sent

State Highway Administration, Mr. Donnie Drewer re: Burgess Americana Museum
Somerset County Public Schools, Dr. John Gaddis re: Inter Category Transfer of Funds FY16
Somerset County Public Schools, Dr. John Gaddis re: Transfer of Funds/Major Categories FY17
Ms. Virbala Patel re: Social Services Advisory Board Appointment
Pastor Terry Riggan/Evangelical Wesleyan Church re: Fee Waiver Request
Asbury United Methodist Church-Request/Donation of Flagpole

Appointments:

- 2:00 p.m. - Public Hearing – Enterprise Zone- Mr. Danny Thompson
- * 2:15 p.m. - Mr. Gary Pusey, DTCS
 - Smith Island Drainage Ditch Study/Bid Award Recommendation
- * 2:20 p.m. - Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance Director
 - Resolution re: J.M. Tawes Interim Loan Financing
- * 2:30 p.m. - Dr. John Gaddis, Ms. Linda R. Johnson, Somerset County Public Schools
 - Additional FY16 Budget Transfers
- * 2:45 p.m. - Ms. Rota Knott, Local Management Board
 - Community Partnership Agreement from the Governor's Office for Children FY17

Discussion:

- * 1. FAA Airport Grant
- * 2. Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board Appointment (1)
- * 3. Somerset County LMB Board Vacancy (2)

2:45 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.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 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, Executive Aide Lory E. Ebron and EDC Director Mr. Danny Thompson 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 August 23, 2016 as presented.

At 2:00 p.m. President Laird proceeded to open the Public Hearing to receive public comment regarding a proposed application for the renewal and expansion of an existing Enterprise Zone known as Somerset County/Crisfield Enterprise Zone. County Administrator Taylor read the notice of public hearing into record as follows:

“The Board of County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Board of County Commissioners, Somerset County Office Complex, 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, Princess Anne, Maryland. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment regarding a proposed application for renewal and expansion of an existing enterprise zone known as Somerset County/Crisfield Enterprise Zone, in accordance with Economic Development Article, Title 5, Subtitle 7, Section 5-703 and 5-705 of the Annotated Code of Maryland as follows:

(1) Renewal of an existing enterprise zone known as Somerset County/Crisfield Enterprise Zone originally approved in 1996, amended in May 2006, and expiring April 2016.

(2) Proposal for an expansion and redesign of the current Somerset County/Crisfield Enterprise Zone to include the renewal of the existing zone, and proposed expansion to include, but not limited to, portions of the City limits of Crisfield, and extending along Rt. 413 to the Crisfield /Somerset County Airport.

A map of the proposed area can be reviewed at the Commissioners' Office or in the office of the Department of Technical & Community Services, Room 211, of the County Office Complex. Board of County Commissioners, Ralph D. Taylor, County Administrator.”

Mr. Thompson provided a summary of the two current “Enterprise Zones” (EZ) in Somerset County; located in Princess Anne and Crisfield. He advised that the renewals are

based on when the applications are approved. Noting that the Princess Anne EZ renewed in 2013, Mr. Thompson explained that the Enterprise Zone helps businesses take advantage of tax credits and different offerings. He then reviewed the proposed map configuration, and explained that the expanded area will include portions of the City limits of Crisfield, to include Mrs. Paul's for example; as well as extending along Route 413 to include businesses such as Carvel Hall, Linton's, the former Puffs Place and AM/PM Electric. Noting that the EZ consists of business' falling within a Priority Funding Area, the expansion area stops at Hopewell. Mr. Thompson explained that the proposed EZ shown today will essentially "clean up" what already exists. It was noted that the process is a joint effort with City of Crisfield, noting their public hearing is planned for September 14, 2016. Mr. Thompson closed by stating that the deadline for the filing of the application is September 30, 2016, and following the public hearings, the application will be submitted for approval.

President Laird asked if there were any proponents present wishing to speak. There were none.

President Laird asked if there were any opponents present wishing to speak. There were none.

President Laird then declared the public hearing closed at 2:09 p.m. Public comment will be taken for 10 days, until September 16, 2016. Mr. Thompson left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Gary Pusey, Planning Director and Ms. Kym Kudla, DTCS Planner were now before the Board. Mr. Pusey presented the Review Committee's recommendation with regard to the Smith Island Open Ditch Drainage System Assessment. He explained that \$50,000 had been previously approved to hire an engineering firm to conduct a study of drainage issues on Smith Island, which was noted as a top priority by island residents during the development of the Smith Island Vision Plan. Mr. Pusey advised that five firms attended the mandatory pre bid meeting held on July 29, 2016. Three firms submitted proposals as follows:

George E. Young	\$42,400.00
George Miles & Buhr	\$46,300.00
AMT	\$47,630.00

The Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Mr. Woody Barnes, Ms. Tracey Gordy, Ms. Kym Kudla and Mr. Pusey met on August 25, 2016. Mr. Pusey advised that although all three firms were qualified, the Request for Proposal (RFP) contained certain items that were required to be addressed. Additionally, because of grant funding through a DNR

Coastal Resiliency Grant, green infrastructure (environmentally friendly) solutions that are innovative must be a part of the study. Mr. Pusey advised that following review of all RFP's submitted the Review Committee felt that the submission made by AMT, although being the highest bid submitted, was the most complete. Additionally, grant funding provided by DNR should cover the entire cost of the project. He added that this submission specifically addressed everything requested within the RFP, and included surveying of ditch maintenance, considered a very important aide to the County Roads Office. Mr. Pusey closed by saying it was the recommendation of the Review Committee to award the bid to AMT in the amount of \$47,630.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston to award the bid as recommended to AMT in the amount of \$47,630.00. The motion carried 5-0. Mr. Pusey and Ms. Kudla left the meeting at this time.

Next, Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance Director, came forward to present the resolution for the Boards consideration and approval to permit interim loan financing with regard to the J.M. Tawes project. A public hearing was held on August 23, 2016, and no public comments have been received. Mr. Adkins noted that obligations for these projects is about Seven Million and Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,400,000), to be divided up as Four Million (\$4,000,000) for Phase I and Three Million Four Hundred Thousand (\$3,400,000) for Phase II. He advised that last Friday, he sent out RFP's to six banks regarding permanent financing. He stated that when bills are received from the Board of Education for the project as outlined in the attached addendum, this interim funding will allow the county to pay itself back until the permanent funding is in place. He also noted that the county has done this before, as it gets the clock running so that bills received can be paid in the interim. President Laird asked for clarification regarding Mr. Adkins use of the word "about" and if a cap on spending is in place. Mr. Adkins noted that he used the word "about" because he does not know exactly how much is going to be spent in these 2 weeks pending permanent funding.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to approve Resolution #1112 as permitted to allow interim loan financing for the J.M. Tawes project as presented. Mr. Adkins left the meeting at this time.

Dr. John Gaddis, Superintendent and Ms. Linda R. Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Somerset County Public Schools were now present to request the Boards approval for additional

inter-category budget transfers and budget amendment for fiscal year 2016. Dr. Gaddis explained that this additional request is a result of their audit, and will complete their final adjustments for year end. Dr. Gaddis also advised that the FY16 year-end closed with a \$287,000 carryover balance, which is always good news to share.

The requested transfers were as follows:

<u>Category:</u>	<u>Amount of Transfer:</u>
Administration	\$30,000
Mid-Level Administration	7,000
Other Instructional Costs	5,000
Student Transportation	14,000
Maintenance of Plant	34,000
Fixed Charges	(98,000)
Capital Outlay	8,000
	\$ 0.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to approve the inter-category budget transfers and budget amendment for fiscal year 2016 as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Gaddis took a moment to thank the Board for their support of the JM Tawes project. He explained plans to work with WORWIC to have JM Tawes be a “summer campus”, as well as the offering of an Adult Education section that will offer a full load of classes to run in the evenings. He also discussed how well this year’s school opening has gone and increased enrollment figures; and the impact this will have on operations. He closed his comments by thanking the Board for the work done at both Washington High School and Crisfield High School, and he also updated the Board on the status of upcoming projects. Dr. Gaddis and Ms. Johnson left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Rota Knott, Executive Director, Somerset County Local Management Board (LMB) was now present. Ms. Knott explained she was here today to present the 2017 Community Partnership Agreement, as approved by the Governor’s Office for Children in the amount of \$288,755.00, which is the annual primary funding source for the LMB. She noted that the Boards previous approval of placing the LMB under the Somerset County Health Department has allowed the restructuring of some things administratively that will be looked into under the current budget guidelines to see if additional funding can be added to the programs. She explained new measures in place that have restricted the use of the administering of the funds. She explained that a needs assessment was performed for the county, which then needed to be

categorized into the 4 Strategic Goals as set by the Governor's Office for Children. Ms. Knott then presented the five programs to be funded this year:

- Children's Safe Initiative
- Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol Program
- Safeguarding Children of Arrested Parents Program
- Sustainable Somerset
- Parenting Program

Ms. Knott also advised the Board that afterschool programs at Garland Hayward and It Takes A Village can no longer be funded, as they didn't meet the Governor's Office for Children goals. She did note however that there is a 21st Century Grant, specifically designed to help support programs such as these that did not qualify for funding under the new guidelines. She discussed assistance that may be offered by the LMB in applying for these grants, noting that a conversation will probably be planned with both organizations to determine if they will require assistance from the LMB to administratively assist with the application and the funding of the grant.

Commissioner Boston questioned the two current vacancies on the LMB, and if Ms. Knott had been approached by anyone to fill those vacancies. Ms. Knott explained that the Bylaws are in the process of being re-written, and there is a strong possibility that the LMB membership will be re-structured. It was her recommendation that the vacancies not be filled until the new Bylaws have been drafted and approved.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to authorize the President to sign the FY17 Community Partnership Agreement as approved by the Governor's Office for Children as presented. Commissioner Mathies abstained; therefore the motion carried 4-0-1.

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

A Clearinghouse Review project was received for the Enhancing Ecosystem and Community Resilience on Deal Island (MD20160817-0745). This project, in the amount of approximately \$1.47 million consists of 1,300 linear feet of "living shoreline", to be constructed off Soundside Estates Road. Mr. Taylor made the recommendation to designate a C-5 response (the project is consistent with our plans, programs and objectives).

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston to designate a C-5 response to Clearinghouse Review Project MD20160817-0745. The motion carried 5-0.

A letter was received from the Maryland Department of Transportation advising that the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) tour for Somerset County has been scheduled for September 20, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

With the full board present, Mr. Taylor next presented for the Boards consideration, the request received from Clean Chesapeake Coalition to schedule a meeting to discuss the benefits of participation in their coalition. Following a short discussion, the Board was in consensus to schedule a Work Session meeting as requested.

Mr. Taylor next presented the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Agreement (AIP 3-24-0012-2016) in the amount of \$165,358.00 for the Boards approval. This grant involves the removal of obstructions (environmental mitigation) regarding the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport. Mr. Taylor then requested the Boards approval for President Laird's signature on the grant agreement as presented.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, President Laird was authorized to sign FAA grant 3-24-0012-2016 as requested. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor advised the Board that Sheriff Ronnie Howard has agreed to serve on the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Commission.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, Sheriff Ronnie Howard was appointed to serve on the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Commission. Commissioner Fisher abstained; therefore the motion carried 4-0-1.

Regarding the two vacancies on the Local Management Board, it was the consensus of the Board to delay making any new appointments until the Bylaws have been drafted and approved.

With no further business, the Board was advised of the need to enter into Closed Session. Therefore, at 3:02 p.m. upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by

Commissioner Boston, 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.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried unanimously to adjourn the Open and Closed Session Meetings at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide



Approved by:
Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County