

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
SPECIAL SESSION
TUESDAY AUGUST 2, 2016

The Board of Somerset County Commissioners met in Special Session at 2:53 p.m. with Commissioner President Randy Laird, Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher, Commissioner Craig Mathies, Sr., Commissioner Rex Simpkins, and Commissioner Jerry S. Boston.

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

Ms. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor, and Mr. Gene Adkins, Director of Finance, were invited to come before the Board to present the Letter of Conditions for our Community Facility Loan Application with USDA Rural Development.

Ms. Muir began by advising the Board that this loan, totaling \$7.4 million, will be for the architectural and engineering costs for the new career and technology center to be known as the JM Tawes Technical High School. The County has requested that this loan amount be represented by separate obligations of \$4 million and \$3.4 million, respectively. Ms. Muir continued by stating that the letter from the USDA establishes conditions which must be understood and agreed to by the County before further consideration may be given to our loan application. The following summary of conditions was provided:

- Notice must be given to USDA-Rural Development of any changes in project cost, source of funds, scope of service, or any other significant changes.
- The County must comply with all federal, state, and local laws regarding borrowing and repayment of federal loans.
- The County must maintain current information on the federal System for Award Management (known as SAM).
- The County must demonstrate compliance with procurement, construction and development, insurance, records, reports, and audit requirements for the terms of this project.

A discussion was held after Ms. Muir's presentation in regards to this being a long term loan, the interest rate, and cost overrun. Following this, Ms. Muir presented the USDA Loan Documents that required President Laird's signature in order to proceed with the loan application. These documents included:

- Letter of Intent to meet Conditions (2 originals for signature)
- Request for Obligation of Funds (\$4 million) – (2 originals for signature)
- Request for Obligation of Funds (\$3.4 million) – (2 originals for signature)
- Loan Resolution (\$4 million) – (2 originals for signature)
- Loan Resolution (\$3.4 million) – (2 originals for signature)

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, the Board voted, 4-0-1 (Commissioner Mathies abstained), to authorize President Laird's signature on the above mentioned documents.

Ms. Muir also added that since this is a joint effort with the Somerset County Board of Education a Letter of Conditions was drafted and signed by Dr. Gaddis, Superintendent of Schools, that stipulates any and all documents necessary to demonstrate compliance with procurement, construction and development, insurance, records, reports, and audit requirements will be provided to the Somerset County Commissioners.

With their presentation complete and the necessary documents signed by President Laird, Mr. Adkins and Ms. Muir exited the meeting.

Next, Mr. Taylor advised the Board that MACo has been asked to put together a work group for additional sprinkler legislation and/or ideas for single family homes. They've requested a representative from Somerset County and would need an answer no later than August 5, 2016. After discussing this matter, the Board agreed to allow Mr. Taylor to be the County's representative for this work group.

The Board was then advised the need for a Closed Session so therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Boston, the Board adjourned from Special Session and entered into Closed Session at 3:10 p.m. by authority of State Government 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)(3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Kimberly Lopez
Executive Secretary