



AGENDA
October 3, 2017
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
11916 Somerset Avenue
Room 111/Meeting Room
Princess Anne, MD 21853
2:00 p.m.

Appointments:

- * 2:00 - Ms. Rota Knott, LMB
 - FY18 Community Partnership Agreement

- * 2:20 - Mr. Gary Pusey, DTCS
 - Selection of Consultant to Update the Zoning Ordinance
 - Mortgage Release – Hilda James, 30687 West Post Office Road

Correspondence:

Received

- Mr. Charles T. Horner, Circuit Court of Somerset County re: 2017 Grand Jury Inspection Report
- Mr. Ashish J. Solanki, MDOT/MAA re: Aviation Proclamation
- * Mr. Daniel K. Thompson, EDC re: Economic Development Commission Appointment Nominations
- Mr. Dwight “Duke” Marshall, Tourism Commission re: Update on Activities

Sent

- Mr. Ed Goyda, Somerset County Library System re: Library Board Appointment
- Mr. Asher Daisey, Elder, Christ Fellowship Bible Church re: Request for Waiver of Permit Fees
- Mr. Willis H. Dryden, Jr. re: Crisfield Heritage Foundation Tax Exemption FY17-18
- Ms. Helen M. Ogden re: Property Purchase
- Mr. Kevin N. Baynes, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization re: Letter of Support
- Mr. Richard J. Sobota, FEMA re: Community Rating System

Discussion:

- * 1. Somerset Long Term Recovery Committee/Request for Funding
- * 2. Surplus Property Sale
- * 3. Pauper Burial Request- Idella N. Lane

3:00 p.m. - Closed Session- Mr. Ralph Taylor, Mr. Donald Ford, Mr. John Redden, Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Ms. Erica Yeager, Gary Pusey

Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b) (1)(i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY OCTOBER 3, 2017

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 Jerry S. Boston, and Commissioner Craig N. Mathies, Sr.

Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher and Commissioner Rex Simpkins were not present at this time.

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. Commissioner Mathies first asked those present to join him in a moment of silence in acknowledgment of the recent tragic event which occurred in Las Vegas.

Meeting minutes were presented for the Board's approval. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, minutes from the Special, Work and Closed Session meetings held on August 29, 2017 as well as the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on September 19, 2017 were approved as presented. The motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Taylor asked Ms. Rota Knott, Executive Director, Somerset County Local Management Board (LMB) and Ms. Karen Brimer, Chair to come forward to present the FY18 Community Partnership Agreement (CPA) between the State of Maryland and Somerset County. The CPA, effective as of July 1, 2017 being presented today is intended to allow a partnership to develop a more comprehensive integration of children and family services, as well as funding for the services.

Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Vice President Fisher joined the meeting at this time.

Ms. Knott explained that the CPA allows for base funding of the LMB from the Governor's Office for Children, through the Children's Cabinet. The requested total amount of the agreement for \$288,755 was broken down to provide funding for the following five programs and administrative costs:

- Safeguarding Children of Arrested Parents	\$103,255.00
- Sustainable Somerset	\$ 29,644.00
- Parenting Skills Development	\$ 33,412.00
- Children's Safe Initiative	\$ 15,000.00
- Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol	\$ 20,835.00
- SCLMB Administrative Costs	\$ 86,609.00
Total	\$288,755.00

Following review of what each noted program provides, Ms. Knott advised that twenty two separate vendors are funded amongst the five programs. Commissioner Boston asked if It Takes A Village (ITAV) receives funding. Ms. Knott advised that both ITAV and Garland Hayward Center both receive some funding from the Sustainable Somerset/FACES of Somerset Program. Ms. Brimer then discussed the purpose of the LMB, noting that it is basically a funding stream for eligible county organizations.

Commissioner Fisher questioned if funding would be allowed to be allocated to the Homeless Shelter. Ms. Knott explained that GOC funding received within this particular grant is geared towards family and youth, however being structured as a 501c3 allows for the LMB to apply for other funding avenues. Ms. Knott closed her comments by requesting that the Board make the LMB aware of any community needs within the county.

While discussing Homeless Shelter, Mr. Taylor took the opportunity to explain that the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) will be presented to the Board for approval during next week's Special Session meeting, and in addition, the Board will be asked to allow the LMB to be the ESG Program Designee on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners. He noted that this responsibility had fallen under the Social Services Department in past years, however this is a responsibility that the Social Services Department has requested to not to continue. Additionally, President Laird noted that \$15,000 has been allotted for the Children's Safe Initiative, and asked if more can be done, including additional funding to work with older children as well.

Following the discussion, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to have President Laird sign the FY18 Community Partnership Agreement as presented. Commissioner Mathies abstained; therefore the motion carried 4-0-1. Ms. Knott and Ms. Brimer left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Taylor next asked Mr. Gary Pusey to come forward. Mr. Pusey first presented, for the Boards consideration of approval, a request to award the contract for a consultant to update both the County's and City's zoning ordinances. He explained that the county had been approved for a \$65,000 grant to fund the project. Peter Johnston & Associates, LLC, of Easton, Maryland submitted the sole bid in the amount of \$64,950.00. It was the recommendation of the Review Committee (Mr. Rick Pollitt, Mr. Bob Spery, Ms. Mary Phillips and Mr. Pusey) to award the contract to Peter Johnston & Associates, LLC. It was noted that it was felt that this firm is fully capable of conducting the study.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to award the Zoning Ordinance Revision Contract to Peter Johnston & Associates, LLC in the amount of \$64,950.00.

Mr. Pusey next presented for the Board's consideration, a request to release a lien on 30687 West Post Office Road, Princess Anne, MD. Mr. Pusey explained that Ms. Hilda James, the home's owner, passed away on January 6, 2017, and the first position lien holder, Bank of America, is in the process of selling the home. They have requested the county release its lien so that the property can be sold. It was noted that the property has decreased in value through the years, and the mortgage exceeds the value of the home. He closed in noting that the county will not lose any funds by releasing the lien.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the lien release regarding 30687 West Post Office Road as presented.

Mr. Taylor continued the meeting with correspondence and discussion items.

Clerk of Court Charles T. Horner provided the 2017 Grand Jury Inspection Reports regarding the Board of Education Office, Detention Center, State's Attorney Office, Sheriff's Office, Health Department, County Complex, Circuit Courthouse, Circuit Court Annex and Eastern Correctional Institution. The report was forwarded to Mr. Redden and Mr. Cavanaugh. Also, a complete copy of the report is available if requested.

Mr. Ashish J. Solanki, A.A. E., Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland Aviation Administration provided a full scale copy of a Proclamation from the Governor's

Office proclaiming September 2017 as General Aviation and Community Airport Month in Maryland. The proclamation was delivered to the City, so that it can be displayed at the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport.

A letter was received from Mr. Daniel K. Thompson, Executive Director, Somerset County Economic Development Commission (EDC), advising of the following nominations regarding the board appointments for a three year term, expiring June 30, 2020 as follows:

- Mr. Alex Karavasilis
- Mr. Rob Maddox
- Mr. Bob Murphey
- Mr. Phil Riggin
- Mr. Mahesh Brahmhatt

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to approve the nominations to the Somerset County Economic Development Commission as presented.

A letter from Mr. Dwight “Duke” Marshall, Jr., Chair, Somerset County Tourism Commission was received that provided an update of the activities of the Commission for the last several months which include the filing of paperwork to establish the Burgess Rural Living Foundation and the inspection and labeling of artifacts at the existing museum.

A letter was sent to Mr. Ed Goyda, Director, advising that Ms. Lois Outten was appointed to serve as a member of the Library Board of Trustees.

A letter to Mr. Asher Daisey, Christ Fellowship Bible Church advised that the request of a waiver of permit fees in the amount of \$721.40 was approved.

County Tax Supervisor, Mr. Willis H. Dryden, Jr., was notified that the FY17-18 County Tax Exemption Request made by the Crisfield Heritage Foundation was approved totaling \$2,882.00.

A letter was sent to Ms. Helen M. Ogden approving her request to purchase 8198 Upper Hill Road in the amount of \$4,000.00.

A letter was sent to Mr. Kevin N. Baynes, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization to express the Board of County Commissioner’s support of Smith Island United’s application of a Community Legacy Grant to implement a Smith Island Façade Improvement Program.

A letter was sent to Mr. Richard J. Sobota, Federal Emergency Management Agency which expressed the county's interest in participating in the Community Rating System so that county residents can qualify for discounted flood insurance premiums.

Next, Mr. Taylor presented a request received from Reverend Huber, Somerset County Long Term Recovery Committee, Inc., (SCLTRC). The Board was reminded that in January 2017, an \$8,000 allocation was approved to help fund the salary for Ms. Kim Hopkins, Elevation Mitigation Project Manager, which resulted from an administrative error made by MEMA. Reverend Huber has advised that due to continued requests for information from MEMA and FEMA, additional delays have caused the waiver request to be stalled, which is threatening the entire project to elevate 10 homes in Crisfield. A breakdown was provided of expected funding, which is anticipated to be received from various ministries and charities totaling \$25,000. This funding will leave a shortfall of \$12,500.00 with regard to Ms. Hopkins salary through the end of the project. Therefore, Reverend Huber is asking for an additional funding allocation in the amount of \$12,500 from the county.

A discussion was held regarding allocations made to SCLTRC for the current fiscal year. It was also noted that Hurricane Sandy funds cannot be used towards this project as it does not qualify as a disaster project.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to approve the requested additional allocation to fund Ms. Hopkins salary in the amount of \$12,500.00. The motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Taylor distributed a spreadsheet for the Boards consideration and approval, containing the next group of offers received from adjacent property owners to purchase county owned properties obtained through tax sale foreclosure, advising them of the opportunity to purchase the properties for 50% of the recorded deed value plus closing costs.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to approve the sale of 10839 Mahlon Price Road (09-164081) to Mr. Gregory and Regina Butler in the amount of \$199.00 plus closing costs.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to sell 6 acres on Crisfield Highway (08-138621) to Mr. William Gene Swift in the amount of \$408.50 plus closing costs. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to sell Ranford Williams Lane (08-144613) to Mr. John Andrews in the amount of \$91.00 plus closing costs. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to sell 23483 Beckett Road (09-163239) to Mr. George Wright Jr., in the amount of \$621.50 plus closing costs. The motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Taylor requested to discuss the offer presented by Mr. Thomas Shores to purchase property on Stouty Sterling Road (12-010974). Mr. Shores has requested that Sanitary District fees, totaling \$5,438.61 be waived, before he purchases the property. Mr. Taylor explained that usually, when the county acquires the properties at tax sale, a request to waive Sanitary District fees owed is made, and usually approved. It was not done in this particular case. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to have Mr. Taylor place a request to have the total Sanitary District fees in the amount of \$5,438.61 (\$4,860.59 sewer/ \$578.02 front foot) to be waived; and if approved by the Sanitary District, the sale of the property to Mr. Thomas Shores in the amount of \$1,150.00 plus closing costs is approved. The motion carried 5-0.

Next, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it was approved to sell property on .50 acres, Riley Roberts Road (11-002714) to Mr. Andrew Crenshaw in the amount of \$131.00 plus closing costs. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it was approved to sell property on Fishhook Lane (09-161341) to the Deal Island/Chance VFD in the amount of \$193.00 plus closing costs. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it was approved to sell property on Walnut Street (07-118619) to Crisfield Church of God, Ms. Wendy Clough, in the amount of \$625.50 plus closing costs. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to sell property on Walnut Street (07-118937) to Crisfield Church of God, Ms. Wendy Clough, in the amount of \$2,843.50 plus closing costs. The motion carried 4-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it was approved to sell property on Joe Lewis Lane (08-145628) to Mr. William and Vickie Evans in the amount of \$548.00 plus closing costs. The motion carried 4-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it was approved to sell property on .25 acres Riley Roberts Road (11-001998) to Mr. William Martin in the amount of \$108.00 plus closing costs. The motion carried 4-0.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it was approved to sell 308 Locust Street (07-119755) to Mr. Gustavo and Luzgarda Tuastaca in the amount of \$1,538.50 plus closing costs. The motion carried 4-0.

A pauper burial assistance request was received from the sister of Ms. Idella N. Lane, a lifelong resident of Somerset County, who passed away on September 27, 2017 having no life insurance.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to approve a \$250.00 pauper burial payment to Anthony Ward Funeral Home, Princess Anne, Maryland.

Lastly, Mr. Taylor requested the Boards approval to authorize Attorney Simpkins to draft the deed to transfer the Crisfield Library from the Library Board of Trustees to the Board of County Commissioners.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to authorize Attorney Simpkins to proceed with drafting the deed to transfer the Crisfield Library to the Board of County Commissioners.

A short recess was taken at 2:55 p.m.

With no further business, at 2:58 p.m., the Board was advised of the need of a Closed Session. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to enter into Closed Session by Authority of State Government Article of the

Annotated Code of Maryland Section §3-305 (b)(1)(i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction.

At 3:56 p.m. the Open and Closed Session meetings were adjourned.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Secretary