



AGENDA
April 18, 2017
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
11916 Somerset Avenue
Room 111/Meeting Room
Princess Anne, MD 21853
1:00 p.m.

Appointments:

- 1:00 p.m. - Appreciation Presentations
 - Ms. Sarah Perdue, 2017 Somerset County Teacher of the Year
 - Ms. Karen Brimer, Child Advocacy Board
- * 1:10 p.m. - Mayor Kim Lawson, Mr. Rick Pollitt, Jr., Ms. Jen Rafter, Ms. Earlene Coulbourne
 - Crisfield Arts District
- * 1:30 p.m. - Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste/Maintenance
 - Bid Opening – Drainage Project- Gandy Lane, Crisfield, MD
- * 1:35 p.m. - Ms. Rota Knott, Executive Director, Local Management Board
 - LMB Community Partnership Application FY18

Correspondence:

Received

- Governor Larry Hogan re: Opioid Operational Command Center
- * MD Department of Planning, Clearinghouse Review re: Enhancing Ecosystem and Community Resilience on the Deal Island Peninsula
- * MD Department of Planning, Clearinghouse Review re: USDA Solar Array Construction/Backbone Road
- * MD DHCD re: Grant Agreement MD CDBG Phase 4 Disaster Recovery
- MD DHCD re: Fairmount Wastewater Plant Decommissioning-Engineering
- Maryland Aviation Administration re: FY18 Capital Projects Conference
- Delmarva Power re: Emergency Maintenance and Repairs

Sent

- The Honorable Lawrence Hogan, Jr. re: Letter of Appreciation
- Dr. Ray Hoy, Wor-Wic Community College re: Letter of Appreciation
- The Honorable Dana Stein, re: Support for SB273 (State Forest, State Park, and Wildlife Management Area Revenue Equity Program)
- Ms. Wendi Peters, Secretary re: PFA Certification
- Dr. John Gaddis, Superintendent re: Inter-Category Budget Transfers/Budget Amendments FY17
- Maryland Heritage Areas Program re: LOS/Grant Request/Customs House

Discussion:

- * 1. Hurricane Sandy – Crisfield Armory Study

2:00 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 (a) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto; and (a) (7) Consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY APRIL 18, 2017

At 1:00 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, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies, Sr., and Commissioner Rex Simpkins. Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher was absent 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.

Meeting minutes were presented for the Boards approval. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 4-0 to approve the minutes from the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on April 4, 2017; and the March 28, 2017 Closed Session meeting as presented.

Ms. Sarah Perdue, 2017 Somerset County Teacher of the Year, was asked to come forward to receive a proclamation from the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Perdue, an Art Teacher for Princess Anne Elementary, was recognized for her commitment to education, and commended by the Board for her achievement.

Ms. Karen Brimer was next asked to come forward. The Board presented Ms. Brimer with a Certificate of Recognition for her years of dedicated service as Secretary on the Child Advocacy Board.

Mr. Rick Pollitt, Crisfield City Manager and Ms. Jennifer Rafter, Circuit Rider came forward to present information regarding the conception of a Arts and Entertainment District for the City of Crisfield.

Mr. Pollitt began, by first noting the artistic talent that exists in the city, with no real effort to allow these artists the support to encourage and develop their skills. He stated that he and Ms. Rafter are present today to explain the benefits of considering an Arts and Entertainment (A & E) District and if a strong measure of support is received, the opportunity to allow them to move forward with the next phase of the concept.

Ms. Rafter provided the Board with a PowerPoint presentation which provided an overview of the A & E District State Program, locations of current A & E Districts on the Eastern Shore, program tax benefits for the artists, and lastly the proposed location for a district for the city. Noting that they are currently in the very beginning stages of this concept, the application due date would be April 1, 2018.

Commissioner Fisher arrived to the meeting at this time.

Ms. Rafter discussed the positive revenue that has been gained by the 36 A & E Districts within the state. She noted the marketing potential, and eligibility for additional grant funding. The discussion continued with regard to the actual impact that the artist tax credits would have on the county, and how other local neighboring counties chose to provide the tax benefits. Additionally Ms. Rafter was asked what the requirements are to be a “qualifying artist”, and how the program will be monitored. Ms. Rafter noted that being in the early stages of the proposal, and pending the receptiveness of the Board to the concept; she did not have that information but would be able to obtain it. The Board expressed an interest regarding the proposal of an A & E District, to be located in Crisfield; however, President Laird requested that Ms. Rafter obtain the additional information requested today, and follow-up regarding the questions asked before a full commitment is made. Mr. Pollitt and Ms. Rafter left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance was now before the Board to accept sealed bids received with regard to the Gandy Lane drainage project. President Laird proceeded to open the sealed bids received as follows:

<u>Bidder:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Mark Bozman	\$3,600.00
Doug Vann	\$4,252.00

Mr. Cavanaugh recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder Mark Bozman.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 5-0 to award the Gandy Lane drainage project to Mark Bozman in the amount of \$3,600.00.

Ms. Rota Knott, Director, Local Addictions Authority, came forward to present the FY18 LMB Community Partnership Application. She began by noting that the “base” request remained the same as FY17 at \$288,755, and the total funding request, if approved is \$635,373. Ms. Knott explained that the grant will also fund the same programs as last year, as it is felt that more time was needed within these programs to establish sustainability. The programs were presented as follows:

- The Parenting Skills Development Program
- The Children’s Safe Initiative Program
- The Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol Program
- The Safeguarding Children of Arrested Parents Program
- Sustainable Somerset

Following a review of each program noted above, Ms. Knott also advised that the LMB is seeking additional funding this fiscal year in the amount of \$316,630 for targeted training for “In – Demand Careers”. This program, if approved, would work with the school system, and is aimed at

reconnecting youth, ages 16-24, who are not working and not in school to specialized employment training opportunities. Compared to the grant request from last year, Ms. Knott advised that this request is almost identical, with the exception of the additional funding request as noted.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the LMB Community Partnership Application for Fiscal Year 2018 as presented.

Mr. Taylor continued with correspondence and discussion items.

A letter was received from Governor Hogan advising that Senior Emergency Management Advisor to the Governor, Clay Stamp, has been directed to immediately expand cooperation across state agencies and facilitate closer coordination at the local level in response to the heroin, opioid and fentanyl crisis surging in Maryland. Emergency Services Director Ms. Yvette Cross has been working with MEMA on this effort.

The following Maryland Department of Planning Clearinghouse Review Projects, reviewed by the Department of Technical and Community Services (DTCS), were presented for the Boards consideration:

- **Project MD20170323-0242, Enhancing Ecosystem and Community Resilience on the Deal Island Peninsula.** The project consists of 1,300 linear feet of living shoreline and dune reconstruction off the end of Crowell Road. A C-5 (The project is consistent with our plans, programs and objectives) designation was recommended by Mr. Taylor.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to approve a C-5 designation for Clearinghouse project MD20170323-0242, as presented.

- **Project MD20170320-0220, USDA: Construction of a 469.8 kW Solar Array consisting of 1,080 SunPower SPR-E20-435COM Modules and SB24000TL Inverters.** This project consists of 1,080 SunPower solar panels to be ground mounted in an agricultural field on a 66.38 acre rural farm on Backbone Road in Eden. This project was reviewed and a Special Exception was approved by the Somerset County Board of Zoning Appeals on March 17, 2017. County permits are required, and the DTCS found no other concerns with the project as proposed. Mr.

Taylor recommended a C-5 (The project is consistent with our plans, programs and objectives) designation for this project as well.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, a C-5 designation for Clearinghouse project MD20170320-0220 as recommended. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Taylor presented the Maryland Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Agreement for funding awarded for disaster recovery (MD-15-DR-1 Phase #4) in the amount of \$545,000. He then requested approval for President Laird to sign the agreement.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the CDBG Agreement for disaster recovery funding as presented.

A letter was received from Maryland Aviation Administration advising that the Maryland Regional Aviation Conference is scheduled for June 8-10, 2017 in College Park, Maryland. Mr. Taylor advised that he will be attending the conference as the county's Airport Sponsor, as attendance to the conference is mandatory in order to receive the 5% state funding for the airport.

Notice was received from Delmarva Power regarding emergency maintenance and repairs that will be performed from Westover to Kingston, scheduled to begin on April 17, 2017. Work is expected to take two weeks to complete.

Mr. Taylor advised that Somerset County was included in the approval of SB 273 (State Forest, State Park, and Wildlife Management Area Revenue Equity Program). The bill is expected to be signed by the Governor in early May, and a letter of appreciation will be drafted thanking the senators involved who assisted with the passage of this bill that will provide much needed additional revenue to the county in FY19.

Mr. Taylor next advised the Board that the City of Crisfield has approached The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for a \$50,000 Hurricane Sandy grant to perform a study of the Crisfield Armory. Ms. Cindy Stone, DHCD has provided her verbal approval of the request to use Sandy funding designated for state administrative costs for this study. It was explained that more extensive studies need to be performed (primarily due to mold infestation) in order to allow activities to be held in the building. Mr. Taylor requested the Board's approval to allow the city to move forward with this grant request.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 5-0 to approve the grant request to perform a study of the Crisfield Armory as requested using state administrative funding.

With no further business, at 2:05 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 (a) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to adjourn the Open and Closed Session Meetings at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide



Approved by:
Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County