



**AGENDA**  
**May 2, 2017**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**FOR SOMERSET COUNTY**  
**11916 Somerset Avenue**  
**Room 111/Meeting Room**  
**Princess Anne, MD 21853**  
**1:00 p.m.**

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**Appointments:**

- \* 1:00 p.m. - Ms. Sherree Marshall, Commission on Aging
  - FY18 Senior Citizen Activity Center Operation Funds Application
  - Senior Care Grant- Permission to apply
- \* 1:15 p.m. - Mr. Tom Lawton, Interim Director, DTCS
  - Agricultural Preservation Program

**Correspondence:**

**Received**

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin, US Senate re: Elimination of CDBG Funding  
The Honorable Mary Beth Carozza, MD House of Delegates re: Summary of 2017 Session  
MD Dept. of Planning re: PFA Certification-Old State, Crackertown, Mariner, Cash Corner Roads  
Mr. Milton A. Rehbein III, MD Marine Contractors Licensing Board re: Marine Contractor Services  
Ms. Kristi S. Shaw, Rauch Engineering, Design & Develop. re: Submission of  
Application/Generating Station CleanBay Biofuels, Inc.  
State of MD Public Service Commission re: Request for Approval/Generating Station, CleanBay  
Biofuels, Inc.  
Marion Fire Department, Inc. re: Rehobeth/Shelltown Substation

**Sent**

- The Honorable George C. Edwards and Co-Sponsors re: Letter of Appreciation SB 273  
Mr. Pete K. Rahn, Secretary MDOT re: 2017 Priority Letter for Recommended Transp. Improv.
- \* Mr. Ronnie Gist, Maryland Industrial Partnerships re: Letter of Support/Metompkin Seafood Inc.

**Discussion:**

- \* 1. Housing Board of Review - Reappointments (2) Vacancy (1)
- \* 2. Proclamation Request - Detective Timothy A. Keen, State Police/Retirement
- \* 3. Grant Mortgage Releases - Burgess(Release)
  - Sterling (Release and Subordination)
- \* 4. Delmarva Power – Release Agreement
- \* 5. Liquor Control Board- Request for Use of County Vehicle

**1:45 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 (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.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY MAY 2, 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 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 Fisher, it carried 5-0 to approve the minutes from the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on April 18, 2017; and the April 25, 2017 Special and Closed Session meetings as presented.

Ms. Sherree Marshall, Executive Director, Commission on Aging came forward to present two grant requests. First, she presented the Senior Center Operating Fund Grant Application for FY18. Ms. Marshall explained that level funding has returned to the FY16 level in the amount of \$33,225.00. She then requested the Boards approval to authorize President Laird to sign the grant application as presented.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the FY18 Senior Center Operating Fund Grant Application as presented.

Next, Ms. Marshall advised that she is currently waiting for the Senior Care Grant Application form to arrive. This grant application level funding will be in the amount of \$100,000.00. Ms. Marshall requested the Boards permission to approve the President's signature on the application when it is received.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the Senior Care Grant Application when it is received. Ms. Marshall left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Tom Lawton, Interim Director/Senior Planner came forward. Mr. Lawton was before the Board to present the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Local Matching Program funded through dedicated revenues from the State's Real Estate Transfer and Agricultural Transfer Tax

received. He explained that through the Local Matching Program, the funds retained can be used to extend easement offers to landowners within each county on a 40/60 County/State matching fund basis. He advised that currently there is \$7,984.64 of “less than three year old money” available for the current match, and any monies three years or older not used must be returned to the state. It would therefore be in the county’s best interest to commit to the match, which will result in an additional \$19,961.60 availability towards easement purchases.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to commit \$7,984.64 in matching funds to the 2017 easement cycle as presented.

Mr. Taylor continued with correspondence and discussion items.

A letter was received from Senator Benjamin L. Cardin sharing his opposition to the proposed cuts in funding for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). Mr. Taylor noted the importance of CDBG funding to county, and negative impacts cuts in funding will create for our county.

A letter was received from Delegate Mary Beth Carozza summarizing the 2017 Legislative Session, which concluded on April 11, 2017.

The Maryland Department of Planning provided correspondence approving the request to remove the “Comment” classification regarding Old State Road, Crackertown Road, Mariner Road and Cash Corner Road as it was determined that these properties meet the (Priority Funding Area) PFA criteria.

Mr. Milton A. Rehbein III, Chairman, Marine Contractors Licensing Board has provided correspondence advising that as of January 1, 2017, a contractor must be licensed to perform marine contractor services in Maryland. Mr. Taylor will share this information with involved department heads of this requirement.

A letter was received from Rauch Inc., serving as notification that on February 3, 2017 an application was submitted by CleanBay Biofuels LLC, to the Public Service Commission for approval to construct a generating station in Westover, Maryland. A waiver of the requirement to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity was also submitted. Also included with the Rauch Inc. letter was a copy of the Public Service Commission letter, advising of the receipt of the request for approval to construct the generating station in Westover and the requirement to notify the governing body of each county.

A letter was received from Chief David Evans, Sr., of the Marion Fire Department which addressed rumors that have been spreading regarding the new Rehobeth/Shelltown substation. He advised that all resources to run the substation will be obtained through annual fundraisers and in-house means. It was noted that having this substation will be an asset to the residents located in the rural area of Rehobeth and Shelltown, many of whom were over five miles from the fire house which resulted in delayed arrival, and higher insurance costs.

Mr. Taylor reviewed the 2017 Somerset County Priority Letter for Recommended Transportation Improvements sent to Secretary Pete K. Rahn.

A letter of support on behalf of Metompkin Seafood, Inc., regarding their submittal of a MIPS Innovate Tech Fund Application was presented for formal approval.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to approve the letter as written.

The Board was advised that Ms. Jackie Wheatley and Mr. Marshall Corbin would both like to continue to serve on the Housing Board of Review.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 5-0 to re-appoint Ms. Jackie Wheatley and Mr. Marshall Corbin to serve an additional 3 year term on the Housing Board of Review.

Mr. Taylor presented a proclamation request for Sergeant Timothy A. Keen, who will be retiring after 26 plus years of service with the Maryland State Police.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston to approve a proclamation recognizing the retirement of Sergeant Keen as presented. The motion carried 5-0.

A request to release two grant mortgages was presented for Ms. Dolly Burgess of 29909 Hudson Corner Road in Marion. Ms. Burgess is refinancing, and being the grants have not expired, the remaining amounts on both mortgages (\$3,306.80 and \$772.00) were due, and required to be paid in order to satisfy grant requirements. Checks for the payoffs were included with the request. It was noted that these funds will be deposited into the housing account, and used to help another applicant.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the grants releases for Ms. Burgess as presented.

A grant mortgage release was also presented for Mr. Carroll R. Sterling and his wife Norma M. Sterling (deceased) of 26651 Walter Jones Road, Crisfield. Mr. Sterling is also refinancing. A grant mortgage was filed against the property for housing rehab work on October 29, 2007 in the amount of \$10,000.00 and expired after five years', and therefore can be released. Additionally, there was a request for subordination from Hebron Savings Bank relating a second grant mortgage placed against the property on July 11, 2013. Being that this grant mortgage is still in place; Hebron Savings Bank has requested the County agree to the subordination agreement in order to proceed with the refinance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to approve the President's signature on the mortgage release and the Hebron Savings Bank Subordination Agreement for Mr. Carroll R. Sterling as presented.

Mr. Taylor presented a Release and Hold Harmless Agreement with regard to the lease agreement in place with Delmarva Power to store materials at the Sheriff's Department lot in Westover. Delmarva Power has vacated the property, cleaned up and restored the grounds. Public Works Director John Redden has inspected the site, and reported that the area looked fine. Mr. Taylor then requested the Boards approval for President Laird to sign the release as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, authorizing President Laird to sign the release agreement. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Taylor next advised the Board of a request received from the Liquor Control Board. They are requesting use of a county vehicle that can be used once a week to deliver orders made in bulk, at a cost savings, to the individual stores. Mr. Taylor was asked to contact the Liquor Control Board and find out the type of vehicle needed as well and frequency and length of time they will need use of the vehicle. Additionally Mr. Taylor was going to see what vehicles would be available for them to use, and report his findings back to the Board.

Ms. Ida Wilson, 30560 Skip Jack Circle came forward to address the Board. Ms. Wilson stated that she has a tall grass issue, regarding a lot next to her house which she has continually had address with the Planning and Zoning Department for many years. She stated the grass is currently in need of cutting again, and is attracting snakes. Noting she is disabled, she stated her fear of snakes, and made a personal request to the Board to have the grass cut. She also noted a problem with increased traffic, and people driving back to the end of the road since it was put in, as well as drainage/flooding issues. Ms. Wilson was asked if she knows who owns the lots where the tall grass needs to be cut. She stated she

did not know. Mr. Taylor advised he would look into the matter and report his findings back to Ms. Wilson as soon as possible.

With no further business, at 1:28 p.m., upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies 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) (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

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 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron  
Executive Aide



Approved by:  
Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County