

(Tentative)



AGENDA
June 13, 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 p.m. - Adopt FY 2018 Budget- Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance Director
- * 2:15 p.m. - Approval of Resolutions
 - o Resolution to amend the Comprehensive Plan- Growth Tiers Map
 - o Resolution to amend the Somerset County Employee Handbook
- * 2:25 p.m. - Bid Award – Replacement Housing/Disaster Recovery- Mr. Mark Konapelsky
 - o 31105 Turkey Branch Road
- * 2:30 p.m. - Ms. Rota Knott, Ms. Karen Brimer, Ms. Sheila Warner /Local Management Board
 - o LMB Structural Matters

Correspondence:

Received

- * Maryland Department of Agriculture re: Coop Agreement/Invasive Weed Control
- * Mt. Zion Historical Society re: Letter of Support Request/Mt. Zion Church

Sent

Dr. John Gaddis, Somerset County Public Schools re: Inter-category Budget Transfers/Amendment
Maryland DHCD/CDBG Program re: Letter of Support/Rubberset Pumping Station, City of Crisfield
Maryland DHCD/Neighborhood Revitalization re: Letter of Support/Community Legacy Grant, City of Crisfield
Maryland DHCD/Neighborhood Revitalization re: Letter of Support/Community Legacy Grant, Town of Princess Anne
Ms. Charlotte Davis, Rural Maryland Council re: Letter of Support/Smith Island Clean Water Project
National Trust for Historic Preservation re: Letter of Support/Teackle Mansion

Discussion:

- * 1. Grant Mortgage Releases (2) – Mrs. Betty France
- * 2. Rhodes Point Shoreline Stabilization Project

3:00 p.m. - Closed Session – Ralph D. Taylor, Kirk Simpkins

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 JUNE 13, 2017

At 2:00 p.m. the Board of Somerset County Commissioners opened in Regular Session. Present for the meeting were Commissioner President Randy Laird, Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher, Commissioner Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston, and Commissioner Craig Mathies, Sr.

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

President Laird called the meeting to order and asked Commissioner Mathies to lead those attending in repeating the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the Regular Session and Closed Session held on May 30th as well as minutes from the June 6th Work Session, Special Session, and Closed Session were approved upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins. This motion carried 4-0-1 with Commissioner Mathies abstaining from the vote as he was not in attendance for the June 6th meetings.

The meeting began with Mr. Gene Adkins, Director of Finance, presenting the final County Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 for adoption (as well as some recent changes to the budget after the public hearing). Mr. Adkins began with a brief review of the budget process, including the public hearing that was held on Tuesday May 16, 2017. He advised that they accepted written comments for the following ten days after the hearing and received two budget request letters from the Garland Hayward Youth Center and the Somerset County Long-term Recovery Committee. Mr. Adkins noted that the Board approved \$5,000 to the Garland Hayward Youth Center, and \$1,500 to the Somerset County Long-term Recovery Committee. At the same time, Mr. Adkins advised that they reduced the unallocated line from the Community Promotions Budget from \$13,000 to \$6500, making it a grand total \$151,950.00. Mr. Adkins then reported that \$10,000 was added to the County Buildings Capital for a sidewalk project, and a new line item was added for Commissioners' Benevolence Fund in the amount of \$500. Salaries and fringes were fine-tuned as well, and Mr. Adkins advised that all of this on the expense side was adjusted on the revenue side through the transfer from undesignated reserve.

Mr. Adkins concluded by reviewing the total budgeted amounts for the County Commissioners and County Roads Board as follows:

\$38,007,174.00	County Commissioners
\$ 2,542,308.33	County Roads Board

At this time, the following motions were made to adopt the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget and set the official tax levy for the new fiscal year:

On a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 that it be adopted and resolved, that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018, the property tax rate be \$1.00 per \$100.00 of the full assessed value of real property and \$2.50 per \$100.00 of full assessed value of personal and public utility property in Somerset County, except such property as may, by provision of the laws, be exempt from this rate.

On a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 that it be adopted and resolved that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018, the property tax rate of \$.28 per \$100.00 of the full assessed value of public utility property; and, \$.112 per \$100.00 of the full assessed value of all other real property in Somerset County, excepting such property as may, by provisions of the laws, be exempt from this rate, be levied and imposed for the State of Maryland.

On a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 5-0 that it be adopted and resolved that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018, the local income tax rate for residents of the County be at the rate of 3.2% of Maryland's taxable income for Tax Year 2018.

On a motion made by Commissioner Mathies, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 5-0 that it be adopted and resolved that for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018 that a service charge of 0.68% be applied to the second installment amount of semiannual tax payments.

On a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 that it be adopted and resolved that the proposed Levy, reflecting total revenues in the amount of \$38,007,174.00 and total appropriations in the amount of \$38,007,174.00, be adopted as the Official Levy of Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

On a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 5-0 that it be adopted and resolved that the proposed Somerset County Roads Budget, reflecting total revenues in the amount of \$2,542,308.33 and total appropriations in the amount of \$2,542,308.33 be adopted for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Mr. Adkins then requested the Commissioners' signatures on the cover pages for the adoption of FY18 Budget.

Mr. Adkins and Ms. Muir left the meeting at this time.

Next, Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Technical and Community Services, and Mr. Tom Lawton, Senior Planner, came before the Board for the approval of the resolution to amend the Comprehensive Plan Growth Tiers Map. After a brief discussion, on a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston, the Board voted to approve the resolution to amend the Comprehensive Plan Growth Tiers Map. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Pusey and Mr. Lawton left the board room.

Ms. Erica Ruiz, Director of Human Resources, was invited to come forward for the approval of the resolution to amend the Somerset County Employee Handbook. On a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, the board voted 4-0-1 (with Commissioner Mathies abstaining from the vote) to approve the resolution to amend the Somerset County Employee Handbook.

Ms. Ruiz left the meeting at this time.

Next, Ms. Dee Savarese came before the board in place of Mr. Mark Konapelsky (who was unable to attend the meeting) for the bid awarding of the Replacement Housing/Disaster Recovery at 31105 Turkey Branch Road. Ms. Savarese advised the Board that it was Mr. Konapelsky's recommendation to award the bid to Ken Build, LLC in the amount of \$127,650.00. On a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Boston, the Board voted 5-0 to award the bid of the Replacement Housing/Disaster Recovery at 31105 Turkey Branch Road in the amount of \$127,650.00 to Ken Build, LLC.

With the meeting ahead of schedule, Mr. Taylor discussed correspondence received.

Mr. Taylor presented the Cooperative Agreement between the Maryland Department of Agriculture and Somerset County that provides cooperation in the control and eradication of noxious and certain invasive weeds for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

On a motion made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize President Laird's signature on the agreement.

Mr. Taylor then presented a letter of support request from the Mt. Zion Historical Society for the preservation and restoration of Mt. Zion Church.

On a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the letter of request and authorize President Laird's signature on the letter.

Following this, Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence sent items and then moved on to discussion items.

Mr. Taylor advised the Board of two Grant Mortgage Releases for property owned by Ms. Betty France. These mortgages have expired since the work was completed in 1987 and 2001, and Ms. France has decided to sell these properties.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to release these grant mortgages for Ms. France. This motion carried 5-0.

The Rhodes Point Shoreline Stabilization Project was discussed next with Mr. Taylor reviewing a motion made by Commissioner Boston (seconded by Commissioner Fisher) during the April 4, 2017 meeting to abandon the Rhodes Point Jetty Navigation Project due to lack of funds. Since then, the Board has met with the USACE and learned that funding is now available through private resources and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$1.5M (the County has Sandy funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 that can be used toward this project as well).

With this information presented, Commissioner Boston amended his motion from the April 4, 2017 meeting to abandon the Rhodes Point Jetty Navigation Project due to lack of funds to now allow USACE to continue and proceed with ad alternate 2, structures 15-19 and structure 1 (on the condition of available funds). Commissioner Fisher then amended his second, and this amendment to the original motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Taylor presented the Rental Allowance Program's Local Program Application in the amount of \$40,000.00 to help with rapid rehousing and homeless prevention.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston to authorize President Laird's signature on the Local Program Application. This motion carried 5-0.

Members from the Local Management Board (LMB), Ms. Karen Brimer, Ms Sheila Warner, and Ms. Rota Knott, were now before the Board to discuss the structure of the LMB. Ms. Brimer began by reviewing the changes that were made to the LMB last year (per their request) to have the LMB under the Somerset County Health Department. With a year now

passed under this new arrangement, the members of the LMB and the Somerset County Health Department have determined that this arrangement will not work. Ms. Brimer then requested that the Board consider repealing Resolution 1108 and the associated bylaws designating the Somerset County Health Department as an instrumentality of the local government for administration for the LMB. Additionally, the LMB met on June 7th and voted unanimously for this change and were now before the Board of Commissioner for Somerset County for their approval. It is the request of the LMB to return to an independent, non-profit agency and work on the functions of a local management board with their own bylaws.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Fisher recommended that the Board move forward with the process of restructuring the LMB as requested. A general consensus was received from the Board, and this matter will be further discussed at a later date.

Mr. Taylor then asked if the LMB would consider assisting the Homeless Committee with the new homeless shelter, to which Ms. Knott answered that they have already put it to consideration.

Following this, Ms. Brimer, Ms. Warner, and Ms. Knott left the meeting.

A brief discussion was then held in regards to the tax sale held on June 8, 2017.

The Board was then advised for the need of a Closed Session.

Therefore on a motion made by Commissioner Boston, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Regular Session meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m., and the Board entered into Close 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; and (a) (7) Consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. This motion carried 5-0.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Kimberly Lopez
Executive Secretary