



AGENDA
February 6, 2018
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. - Public Hearing/CDBG Disaster Recovery Status Report
 - Mr. Gary Pusey, Ms. Donna Laird, DTCS
- 2:15 p.m. - Public Hearing/Proposed Arts and Entertainment District City of Crisfield
 - Ms. Jennifer Merritt, Mr. Michael Day
- 2:40 p.m. - Ms. Karen Brimer, Local Management Board
 - Not My Child Initiative Update
- * 2:50 p.m. - Mr. Gary Pusey, DTCS
 - Ms. Kate Patton, Rural Legacy Application – FY 2019
 - Bid Award – Deal Island Shoreline & Marsh Enhancement Design – Crowell Road/ DNR Coastal Resiliency Program
 - Fee Waiver Request – Dave Mason

Correspondence:

Received

Ms. Cindy Stone, DHCD re: Release of Funds MD-15-DR1, Phase 5
Mr. Kenneth Holt, DHCD re: Approval of CDBG Block Grant
Sgt. Jo Hreczan, Sheriff's Office re: AOC Grant for Circuit Court Security
Mr. Pete K. Rahn, MDOT re: Grant Award Crisfield-Somerset County Airport
Charter Communications re: Upcoming Changes

Sent

The Honorable Lawrence Hogan, Jr. re: Somerset County Economic Impact Scholarship
IGTA Conference Committee re: UMES Submission to host the 2019 International Town & Gown Conference
Letter of Support re: Humane Society of Somerset County Grant Submission

Discussion:

- * 1. Surplus Property
- * 2. Proclamation Approval MSP Officer Retirement
- * 3. Election Judges – Administrative Day
- * 4. Adult Guardianship Review Board Vacancy (2)
- * 5. Agricultural Reconciliation Board Vacancy (1)

3:10 p.m. - Closed Session- Mr. Ralph Taylor, Mr. Mike Zeigler, Mr. John Redden, Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Ms. Erica Yeager, Kirk Simpkins

Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b) (10) To discuss public security , if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans; and (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; and (b)(7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

* Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2018

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, Commissioner Craig N. Mathies, Sr., and Commissioner Rex Simpkins. Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher was in Annapolis to attend the General Assembly hearings regarding two proposed legislative bills being presented today for Somerset County.

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.

Closed Session Summary Report February 6, 2018

On February 6, 2018, at 3:48 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to enter into Closed Session by Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b) (10) to discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans; and (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; and (b)(7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Present for the Closed Session Meeting were President Randy Laird, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston, Commissioner Rex Simpkins and Commissioner Craig Mathies Sr. Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Aide Lory Ebron, State of Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Mr. Mike Zeigler, HR Director Erica Yeager, Director of Maintenance and Solid Waste, Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Public Works Director John Redden and Attorney Kirk Simpkins. Topics discussed were: (1) ECI staffing (2) Potential litigation (3) Legal consultation (4) Hiring (5) Compensation. Actions taken during closed session: (1) Hiring of a Building Custodian.

Meeting minutes were presented for approval.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 4-0 to approve the Commissioner and Closed Session meeting minutes as presented from January 23, 2018.

Mr. Gary Pusey and Ms. Donna Laird, Department of Technical and Community Services came forward with regard to the Public Hearing to provide a status report of activities undertaken by the County through its implementation of five Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery Grants.

President Laird called the Public Hearing open at 2:00 p.m. County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor read the notice of public hearing into record as follows:

“Somerset County will conduct a Public Hearing to provide citizens with a status report of activities undertaken by the County through its implementation of five Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery Grants at the above-referenced time and location.

The County Commissioners entered into grant agreements with the Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) to use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts (1) in November 2015 for Housing and Economic Recovery; (2) in September 2014 for Infrastructure projects throughout the County; (3) in February 2016 for Head Start at Crisfield High School; (4) in April 2016 for additional funding for certain Infrastructure projects; and (5) in August 2017 for funding to decommission the Fairmount WWTP and prepare a structural feasibility study of the Crisfield Armory.

A summary of funding allocated and spent on each of these grants will be provided at the Public Hearing.

Efforts will be made to accommodate the disabled and non-English speaking residents with five days advance notice to Gary Pusey at 410-651-1424. Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County Randy Laird, President.”

Mr. Pusey explained that as a result of Hurricane Sandy, Somerset County received federal funding to assist with various recovery efforts. A public hearing is held every six months to inform the public as to how the funding is being spent. At this time, the county is in the process of administering five separate phases of Disaster Recovery funding. The following is a summary of Mr. Pusey’s update presented:

Housing and Economic Recovery - \$2.94 Million (MD-14-DR Phase 3)

This grant is a continuation of the first Disaster Grant the County received. It continues with new home replacement of houses damaged during Sandy and business loans, new activities of job training, broadband extension for Crisfield, and the development of a Strategic Economic Opportunities Analysis for the County. To date, approximately \$2.2 Million has been spent on this phase, leaving \$700,000 to be spent by December 2018. Two replacement homes are approved to be built; therefore, these two new homes, the broadband extension, the economic analysis and miscellaneous administrative costs will utilize the remaining funds left in the grant phase.

Infrastructure- \$2.35 Million (MD-15-DR-1 Phase 2)

This grant covers costs associated with the construction of the Head Start addition/renovation at Crisfield High School and the demolition of Whittington School in

Crisfield. The end date for this grant of August 31, 2017 was met. All funding in this phase was spent.

Infrastructure- \$4.872 Million (MD-15-DR-1 Phase 3)

This phase of the grant covers additional funding for the Homeless Shelter near Princess Anne for \$150,000, funding to be provided to the Army Corps of Engineers for the Rhodes Point Jetty in the amount of \$250,000, and funding for the Rhodes Point Shoreline Stabilization project for \$4,472,000. This phase began on April 14, 2016 and is scheduled to end on March 31, 2019. An update regarding each of these projects was also provided.

Infrastructure - \$545,000 (MD-15-DR-1 Phase 4)

This phase of the grant covers additional funding for the Homeless Shelter Project (\$120,000), funding for the Fairmount Wastewater Plant (WWTP) Decommission Engineering Study (\$225,000), and funding for Project Administration (\$200,000). The grant start date was March 31, 2017 and has an end date of March 31, 2019. It is felt all funding in this phase will be spent by the March 31, 2019 end date.

Infrastructure - \$4,155,000 (MD-15-DR-1 Phase 5)

This phase of the grant covers additional funding for the Fairmount Wastewater Decommissioning Project/Construction for \$3,905,000, funding for the Crisfield Armory Feasibility Study for \$50,000, and funding for Project Administration for \$200,000. This phase began on August 11, 2017 and is scheduled to end on August 11, 2019. A detailed summary for each project was also provided.

Mr. Pusey concluded his Hurricane Sandy Disaster Recovery funding report stating that the County has been administering five (5) grants, or phases totaling approximately \$14.862 Million. He advised each grant is on schedule to be completed before the end date, and all funds will be spent in accordance with the requirements for each grant. He also expressed his gratitude to his staff, mentioning Ms. Laird, Ms. Savarese and Mr. Konapelsky for their assistance with keeping track of these projects. He also thanked Mr. Taylor, whose background and experience has been of great help. In closing, he also thanked the Board for their support. The Public Hearing was declared closed at 2:11 p.m.

Being that the meeting was running slightly ahead of schedule, Mr. Taylor continued with correspondence at this time.

A letter was received from Ms. Cindy Stone, DHCD, advising of the "Release of Funds" regarding Grant No. MD-15-DR 1, Phase 5 for the Fairmount Crisfield Armory Feasibility Study.

A letter was also received from Mr. Kenneth C. Holt, DHCD, advising that Somerset County's request for SFY 2018 Community Development Block Grant funds through the Homeless Initiative were approved for \$280,000. These funds will be provided to Catholic Charities (\$130,000) and the Somerset Committee for the Homeless, Inc. (\$150,000), to assist with their efforts to help homeless persons.

The Board was advised of an AOC grant submission, submitted by the Sheriff's Office that has been approved for Circuit Court security measures in the amount of \$59,917.89.

Secretary Pete K. Rahn, Maryland Department of Transportation advised in his letter dated January 29, 2018, of the grant award approved to acquire easements for obstruction removal at the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport. The total cost of the projects is \$226,877 with the State paying up to \$11,344.00 of that amount.

A letter sent to Governor Hogan, thanking him for his support of the Somerset Economic Impact Scholarship included within his 2019 Budget was reviewed. The amount will fall short of what is needed, and therefore the Governor was asked to consider including \$84,430.00 (the amount of the shortfall) into his supplemental budget for FY19 so that full funding will be available for the new upcoming class.

Letters of Support were provided for UMES to host the International Town & Gown Association Conference as well as to the Somerset County Humane Society for a grant submission.

President Laird declared the Public Hearing open at 2:15 p.m., regarding the proposed designation of an Arts and Entertainment District in the city of Crisfield. Mr. Taylor next read the notice of public hearing into record as follows:

“The City of Crisfield jointly with Somerset County Maryland is considering applying to the Maryland State Arts Council for designation as an Arts and Entertainment District. To qualify, both the City and Somerset County must pass tax incentives for qualifying business and individuals. A combined City/County public hearing for comments will be held at 2:15 pm on February 6, 2018 at the Somerset County Office Complex, 11916 Somerset Ave. Room #111, Princess Anne, Maryland to discuss the proposed project and to provide the opportunity for public comment.

The City will hold an additional hearing on February 14th at 6 pm at Crisfield City Hall, 319 W Main Street, for those who are not able to attend the February 6th meeting.

Maryland's Arts & Entertainment (A&E) Districts help develop and promote community involvement, tourism, and revitalization through tax-related incentives that attract artists, arts organizations, and other creative enterprises. The City has passed a Resolution to allow tax incentives for qualifying businesses and individuals in the proposed District. The County will be considering approving tax incentives as well.

Comments may be submitted in person at the hearing, or in writing, prior to the hearing, to the Somerset County Commissioners, 11916 Somerset Avenue, Rm. 111, Princess Anne, MD 21853. Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County Ralph D. Taylor, County Administrator.”

Mr. Taylor asked Ms. Jennifer Merritt, and Mr. Michael Day to come forward. President Laird also invited the members of City Council also present today to come forward.

Ms. Merritt began with a PowerPoint presentation that opened with a statement made provided by City Manager Rick Pollitt. Both he and Mayor Lawson were not able to attend the Public Hearing today as they were in Annapolis to testify on behalf of proposed “Golf Cart” legislation, but wanted to express their support of the proposed Arts & Entertainment District for the City of Crisfield. It was noted that this proposed legislation, if passed, would assist the A & E District, as it would be providing an additional means of transportation within the City.

During the presentation, a discussion was held regarding tax incentives (both property and artist) as well as the budgetary requirements involving the A & E District. Expectations are that this proposed A & E District will be an increase to both tourism and tax revenue, and the amount of interest to participate expressed was discussed. It was noted that staff salaries are planned to be coming from a variety of sources including grants, community support (including fund raising efforts) as well as City and County support. The Circuit Rider position is currently being funded by the City’s budget, which was unanimously voted to be approved by City Council. Following the discussion, President Laird commented that he is hopeful that an appropriation will be considered from the Community Relations category during the upcoming county budget deliberations.

President Laird then asked if there were any proponents present wishing to speak.

Mr. Mark Konapelsky, City Councilman came forward. Mr. Konapelsky first asked those present in the room if they are in support of the A & E. Most raised their hands. He stated that interest in the A & E is going out past the City, with many artists wanting to reach out and be a part. He mentioned taking the Whitehaven Ferry, and Artisan Week in Whitehaven where they opened up all of the homes, to become art galleries for a week and how incredibly cool that was. He discussed the vision Somerset County has for itself, from the Golf Course, the Athletic Fields, the Walking Path in Westover, and now the Bike Trail, and how a different group of people are being drawn here, and how it is a great extension to create one giant community doing events together.

Mr. Jay Tawes, Crisfield Maryland came forward. Stating they all come here humbly, he said there are a lot of needs and incentives needed in Crisfield. As Chairman of the Crisfield Heritage Foundation, he feels they are the “center post” for the District. He feels it is imperative and would be bountiful for their organization to be encompassed as part of this district. Leaking vacant buildings were noted, and he feels this would be a step in fixing and repairing them. The area has been blighted for the last 20-25 years and it time for Crisfield to change its mode of

operation. He feels this will be a gigantic step forward, and with the support of the people behind him, it will be a success.

Ms. Barbara Ward, City Councilwoman came forward. She stated that this would be a wonderful opportunity for Crisfield. Living in Crisfield for all of her life, she mentions seeing many ups and downs. She feels the A & E would be an awesome thing for them, noting there is a lot of talent in Crisfield. She believes it will help to bring Crisfield up where it needs to be. It will take time and money but people will work together to get it done. She said that everything that helps Crisfield helps us as well as visitors. She said she is all for it, and that it will be a good thing.

Mr. Bill Brown, Somerset County resident, now came forward. Mr. Brown explained he has been a resident for eleven months, and explained his family history behind deciding to live here. He explained he has put an enormous amount of money into his property and the community. They have taken residence in Crisfield and are dead set to stay and improve Crisfield.

Mr. George Fridley, Crisfield, came forward to address the Board. He noted the numerous houses, needing to be developed which would be great for a studio or living quarters. He also mentioned the vacant buildings downtown with that potential. He discussed the talent in Crisfield, and the lack of opportunity they have. Regarding getting sponsors to help raise money for the A & E, he advised he is going after famous people to support the A & E for Crisfield. He said we have to do something for Crisfield. He discussed the beautiful sunsets; stating that is Crisfield.

Mr. Tom Schisler, Crisfield, and Director of Somers Cove Marina now came forward. He feels an A & E would be great, and would complement the demographics at the Marina. He discussed the St. Michaels Marina, and the positive effects on slip rentals and the increase of property values there. He stated he knows what it did for St. Michaels, and sure it would be the same for Crisfield.

Mr. Phil Riggin, Crisfield now came forward. Mr. Riggin stated he was born and raised in Crisfield, leaving for 30 years to work, retiring here 9 years ago. He has been very engaged in activities since that time. He believes that there have been at least two strategic plans on behalf of Crisfield have included some sort of development plan for Crisfield; including an expanded arts presence, or possibly an A & E District. This has been a consistent part of planning over the years and he feels it is important to keep this in mind and just wanted to make that point.

Ms. Mindie Burgoyne, Marion as well as a member of the A & E Committee, and employee of the Maryland Department of Commerce working directly with the A & Districts came forward. She noted from her perspective, she has worked with every A & E from Elkton to Berlin and was very surprised to see the amount of support and involvement for the Crisfield A & E. She noted that involvement is what makes an A & E successful. She also said that Crisfield has many assets to make an A & E successful from the marina to the campground to the waterfront property and the offshore islands. Other areas would be envious of what Crisfield has to offer. She stated she gives her vote of support as a Department of Commerce representative as well as being a local resident.

Ms. Kathleen Garten, Crisfield, now came forward. She advised she came here in 2002 and owns 2 homes; one of which is used to take in visitors. She said she receives many comments and critiques as visitors ask her help to plan vacations. She said it saddens her when she has to send people to Cambridge or Ocean City. She feels that Somerset County should be viewed as a total package, with Crisfield as a part of it. She mentioned attractions that she recommends such as Teackle Mansion, UMES, agriculture, arts, sunsets, fishing and education. She does her best to encourage people to come back here, saying that if they really like it here, buy a second home. She closed in saying this is just a part of evolving into the next generation; the real deal.

Mr. Jim Ricca, a novelist from Salisbury came forward. He stated that what is being proposed sounds familiar to what he saw happen in New Hope Pennsylvania, now known as an artist colony. He explained that Bucks County obtained grants to draw artists in; who flocked to the town because of its affordability. Over the years the town grew; and property values increased to where you would have to be a millionaire to live there now attracting famous artists, writers and dancers. He stated that nice places to visit become nice places to live. This is a sound idea, a no-brainer.

Ms. Robin Daniels, artist and art teacher, living in Crisfield now came forward. She mentioned everyone's passion to bring the A & E District here, and noted she would personally love it; but she said she is here to touch on the kids. She remembers seeing Main Street to what it was; the parades and all the little stores. She feels having an A & E will give kids something to want to stay here for; to have them involved with the things that go on with an A & E District will anchor them here. She asked to keep the younger kids in mind and their hopes to be a part of this as well.

Mr. Joshua Nordstrom, Crisfield Chamber of Commerce/Board Member came forward. He stated that the Chamber of Commerce is overwhelmingly supportive of this venture, noting that every A & E worked where it was tried and was a boom to the economy. He said he gives his full support to Jen and Michael, saying he has worked with both, and they are the two best people to implement and make the A & E successful. He closed his comments by saying he personally makes the recommendation to adopt an A & E District to support them both to make it happen. It will be a boom to the economy and bring economic development to houses and businesses that have fallen in disrepair.

Ms. Pat Valdata, writer now came forward. Ms. Valdata stated she moved to Crisfield one year ago today, coming from Elkton. She lived in Elkton for 27 years and saw it before and after their A & E designation. She said downtown was depressed, and headed to where Crisfield is today, and getting the designation was a real revitalization, bringing arts and other kinds of businesses to the town. She noted that three new restaurants opened since the designation, and that being an A & E District will bring tourism and businesses to the City. She closed in saying she is proud to be a Somerset County resident and proud to have Crisfield as her address and will do whatever she can to help promote it.

Mr. Michael Day next asked to make a comment with regard to live/work space in the district. With the marketing of this and the cost of real estate, there is a great opportunity to use this as a tool to market homes outside of the district, noting that often artists are not always very wealthy and can afford the property values within the County.

Ms. Charlotte Scott, City Council came forward. She noted the drawing on the last slide of the presentation, stating that she commissioned the drawing to be created back in 2007, with the vision she had for uptown. She feels an A & E will and can help bring this vision to fruition, noting that the Greater Crisfield Coalition, the Chamber of Commerce and the Arts Council all complement each other, and the A & E is one more thing to help Crisfield move forward.

Mr. Steadman Friedley now came forward. He stated from Route 413 south, we are a third world country. He said we can teach people to make pottery, clothing and jewelry, feeling these are all marketable values. He feels it offers us the opportunity to look at our heritage, mentioning the world famous Ward Brothers duck carving. He feels an A & E is a perfect fit for Somerset County and what Crisfield needs; and it needs everybody's support.

Mr. Taylor then noted for the record, written comments, all in favor, that were received prior to the public hearing from Mr. Terry Pehan, Mr. Bruce Wooster, Mr. Michael Perry and Ms. Lee Whaley.

President Laird then asked if there were any opponents present to speak. There were none.

President Laird then stated that he echoed Ms. Daniels comments in that he was also old enough to see it all thriving, with homes filled up with families, and he would like to see it again, and he is hopeful that his fellow commissioners will agree, and be in favor of an A & E District for Crisfield. Written comment will be taken for 10 days. The public hearing was declared closed at 3:11 p.m.

A short recess was taken while the room cleared.

The meeting resumed at 3:17 p.m.

Ms. Karen Brimer, Committee Chair, Local Management Board (LMB), came forward to provide an update with regard to the Not My Child Initiative. She was attending today on behalf of the Court. She began by providing a brief update of the how the initiative was initially presented. She then advised that a moderator will be providing presentations to address the heroin and opioid crisis that will be made in the afternoon for students at Crisfield High School and then a later presentation on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Additionally, presentations will take place at Washington High School, with two sessions being held for students (at 8:30 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.) on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, and an evening session beginning at 5:30 p.m. She advised that the panel will include local representatives from the State's Attorney, Law Enforcement, a Physician, Health Department, and EMT and Board of Education. A parent of a deceased child due to an overdose from another county has also agreed to participate. There is no charge to attend the event, and she advised that everyone is invited. Grant funding will cover the cost of the events. She noted that the key word is communication and how everyone has come together for this. Advertisements as well as links to the website will also promote the events.

Two other items mentioned as a result from the original letter received from Anne Arundel County regarding the Not My Child Initiative that had been sitting on a back shelf, is that the LMB will be applying for a grant for an Addiction Prevention position; which would be housed from the State Attorney's Office. Ms. Brimer also briefly explained that Judge Powell and Judge Price have initiated the Somerset County Recovery Court, when someone is found guilty, their sentence will be deferred to the Recovery Court for a period of up to 540 days.

Mr. Taylor and the Board thanked Ms. Brimer for taking the lead on this project. Ms. Brimer left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Gary Pusey, DTCS and Ms. Kate Patton, here to present the Rural Legacy Application (RLA) for FY19, came forward. Mr. Pusey explained that when initially established in 2008, Somerset and Worcester agreed to partner with the Nature Conservancy and the Lower Shore Land Trust in order to pursue funding sources for easement purchases. Currently the RLA covers 27,650 acres within both counties. As a part of the FY19 application, Worcester is seeking to expand their portion of the RLA by 27,877 acres. It was explained that during the next year, they will be considering if Somerset County should enlarge its portion. It was mentioned that any increase will require the County Commissioner's approval. For FY 19, \$2,076,000 is being requested from the State with a goal to purchase easements on five (5) properties totaling about 1,055 acres, with 185 acres being located in Somerset County. It was noted that the two counties alternate between projects. Mr. Pusey then requested the Boards approval for the application as presented.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, it carried 4-0 to approve the submission of the FY19 Diving Creek Rural Legacy Area Grant Application.

Next, Mr. Pusey presented the recommendation of the Review Committee (consisting of Mr. John Redden, Mr. Woody Barnes, Ms. Kym Kudla and himself) regarding the bid award for the engineering services and design contract for the Deal Island Shoreline & Marsh Enhancement project from the Coastal Resiliency Program Grant from DNR in the amount of \$70,000. Three bids were received regarding the project; Coastline Design, PC for \$42,000, BayLand Consultants & Designers, Inc., for \$54,000 and Sustainable Science, LLC/Biohabitats, Inc., for \$69,830. Mr. Pusey advised that all three proposals addressed all of the issues discussed at the pre-bid meeting and site visit, and the Review Committee found all three qualified. The recommendation of the Review Committee was to award the bid to the low bidder, Coastline Design, PC., for the amount of \$42,000.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 4-0 to award the Engineering Services Design Contract to Coastline Design, PC in the amount of \$42,000.

Next, Mr. Pusey presented a request for a waiver of permit fees received from Mr. David Mason for the Chesapeake Boats Property. He explained that Mr. Mason will be building a second building, following the fire that occurred about a year and a half ago. Fees for the first

building constructed were requested to be waived; and were approved at that time. It was explained that the first building was half of the size of the building that was destroyed by fire. With the addition of this second building, Mr. Mason will have the square footage he had prior to the fire. The amount of fees to be waived, if approved are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Occupancy Permit | \$50.00 |
| Utilities Permit | \$30.00 |
| Review Fees | \$100.00 |
| Inspections | <u>\$960.00</u> |
| Total of Review Fees | \$1,140.00 |

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Mathies to waive the Review Permit Fees totaling \$1,140.00 for Mr. David Mason for the new construction of a second building at the Chesapeake Boats facility located at 5030 Crisfield Highway as requested. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Taylor advised the Board that Ms. Denise Jones, who had requested to purchase surplus property identified as 11-001114, .75 acres on Riley Roberts Road in the amount of \$300.00 plus closing cost's has rescinded her offer. The approval was given during the January 9, 2018 meeting. Mr. Taylor advised that a second offer had been submitted for the purchase of this property from Mr. Julian Vismale in the amount of \$90.00 plus closing costs. The half deed value for this property was \$173.00. As the minutes from that meeting were not provided in order to rescind the motion, the request will be presented during the next Commissioner meeting scheduled.

A proclamation request was received from Lt. Metzger from the Maryland State Police Barracks in Princess Anne to acknowledge the retirement of First Sergeant David Dalfonzo.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to approve the proclamation request for First Sergeant Dalfonzo upon the occasion of his retirement.

Mr. Taylor presented a request received from Ms. Joanna Emely, Election Director for the Boards consideration to allow administrative leave to those county employees serving as Election Judges. She has advised that there is a severe shortage (13 vacancies) in Somerset County; and she is having trouble getting people to work as Election Judges. It was reported that Worcester, Kent, Caroline do allow administrative leave and Talbot County will be placing the request. Wicomico County does not pay administrative leave. It was noted that offering administrative leave was stopped in 2005/2006. Ms. Emely has requested the Boards

consideration to reinstate the policy of offering administrative leave pay for county employees serving as Election Judges. It was questioned if advertisements are placed in the local papers for the vacancies. The Board then requested that an ad be run first; and depending on the results, Ms. Emely's request will be reconsidered at a later time.

Current board and committee vacancies were reviewed. Commissioner Mathies questioned if the Sanitary Commission vacancy is open, as he had an interested person. Mr. Taylor noted that our office was waiting for the Sanitary District to provide a map boundary. It was noted that the vacancy is in the Princess Anne District; and it was questioned if that included the Westover area. Mr. Taylor said he would get clarification and add the vacancy to the next meeting agenda.

With no further business, at 3:44 p.m., the Board was advised of the need of a Closed Session. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 4-0 to enter into Closed Session by Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland Section Subtitle 3-305 (b) (10) to discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans; and (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; and (b)(7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

At 5:00 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 Aide