



**AGENDA**  
**March 20, 2018**  
**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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**Correspondence:**

**Received**

- \* Mr. Brian Prendergast, MD Dept. of Agriculture re: 2018/2019 Mosquito Control Budget
- \* Mr. Ben Grumbles, MD Dept. of the Environment re: Somerset County Recycling Plan
- \* City of Crisfield re: Letter of Gratitude/A & E District
- \* Somerset County Local Management Board re: Board Appointments

**Sent**

- \* The Honorable James N. Mathias, Jr. re: Support for Wallops Appropriation
- \* Ms. Joyce Cottman, Department of Social Services re: Letter of Appreciation

**Discussion:**

- \* 1. Proclamation Approval- National Service Recognition Day
- \* 2. Proclamation Approval- Child Abuse Prevention Month
- \* 3. Somerset County Recovery Court Grant Application
- \* 4. Proposed Master's Court- Court Annex/Relocation
- \* 5. Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board Re-appointment (1)
- \* 6. Planning Commission Re-appointment (1)
- \* 7. Coast-Smart Council Appointment (1)

**1:30 p.m. - Closed Session- Ralph D. Taylor**

Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b) (1) 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)(8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

- \* Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
TUESDAY MARCH 20, 2018

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, and Commissioner Craig N. Mathies, Sr.

Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher and Commissioner Rex Simpkins were absent from today's meeting.

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 March 20, 2018**

On March 20, 2018, at 1:20 p.m. until 2:10 p.m., at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to enter into Closed Session by Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b)(1) 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)(8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Present for the Closed Session Meeting were President Randy Laird, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston, and Commissioner Craig Mathies Sr.

Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher was absent from today's meeting and Commissioner Rex Simpkins was not in attendance at this time.

Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor and Executive Aide Lory Ebron.

A recess was taken. The Closed Session meeting resumed at 1:37 p.m. by Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b)(1) 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)(8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Present for the Closed Session Meeting were President Randy Laird, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston, and Commissioner Craig Mathies Sr., and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

Commissioner Vice President Charles F. Fisher was absent from today's meeting.

Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor and Executive Aide Lory Ebron.

Topics discussed were: (1) litigation. Actions taken during closed session: (1) approval to relocate Sheriff Office personnel.

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Meeting minutes from the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on March 6, 2018 as well as the Special and Closed Session meetings held on March 13, 2018 were approved as presented later in the meeting upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Mathies. The motion carried 3-0.

As there were no appointments scheduled for today's meeting, Mr. Taylor began with correspondence and discussion items.

Mr. Prendergast, Program Manager, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Mosquito Control Section, submitted the Somerset County 2018 season budget estimate for the Boards consideration and approval. It was noted that the FY18 budget being presented is the same as last year's budget for expenditures and anticipated costs. Additionally, the Board was asked to discuss the current yearly spraying fee in the amount of \$75.00, and if they desired to increase the rate for the upcoming season.

Being that the budget proposal remained the same, Commissioner Boston made a motion to accept the budget as presented for the FY18 Somerset County Mosquito Control Section, and have the yearly spraying fee to residents remain at \$75.00. Commissioner Mathies seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

A letter was received from Secretary Ben Grumbles, Maryland Department of the Environment which explained that following their review, it was determined that Somerset County had not met the required recycling rate as indicated within its 2016 Maryland Recycling Act Tonnage Reporting Survey. Mr. Taylor discussed the matter with Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance, and it was noted that there were several attributable reasons for the decline in the percentage: closure of the scrap metal facility in Westover, the closure of Banks of Eden composting operation and the closure of American Dehydrated Foods years ago were all contributing factors that prohibited the county from reaching its yearly goal.

Additionally, Mr. Cavanaugh advised that the tonnage rate at ECI dropped dramatically when they discontinued food scrap recycling. Mr. Taylor advised that Mr. Redden, Public Works Director and Mr. Cavanaugh will revise the plan and present their revisions to the Board for approval at an upcoming meeting; therefore no action is needed to be taken at this time.

A letter was received from Mr. Richard Pollitt, City Manager, and Ms. Carol Heck, Chair, CAED Project thanking the Board for their support and passing of the resolution which will allow tax incentives for artists and Arts and Entertainment (A & E) enterprises in the proposed Crisfield A & E District.

A letter was received from Ms. Kelly Hawkins, LMB Chairman, requesting the Boards approval to appoint Mr. Wessman Garner and Ms. Tracey Cottman to the Somerset County Local Management Board, for a three year term.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies to appoint Mr. Garner and Ms. Cottman to serve a three year term on the Local Management Board. The motion carried 3-0.

A request for a letter of support from Senator Jim Mathias was approved by phone poll last week, regarding efforts to seek \$500,000 in State funding for system enhancements to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS), including technical upgrades to security and supply systems at Wallops Island. Mr. Taylor requested formal approval for the letter of support.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 3-0 to approve the letter of support regarding the appropriation request for state funding regarding the system enhancements for MARS at Wallops Island.

A proclamation proclaiming April 3, 2018 as National Service Recognition Day, as well as recognizing the Foster Grandparent Program was presented for approval.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies, and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to approve the proclamation for National Service Recognition Day as presented.

A proclamation recognizing April 2018 as Child Abuse Prevention Month was presented for approval.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 3-0 to approve the proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month as presented.

Mr. Taylor advised the Board that Circuit Court has submitted their application for a grant regarding the initiation of a Somerset County Recovery Court. The Board was reminded that a letter of support was approved for this project during the February 27, 2018 meeting. The

grant, in the amount of \$103,647 will be used for an adult drug court to reduce drug dependency through a structured treatment program of four phases, frequent monitoring and court reviews.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 3-0 to approve the submission of the grant application with regard to the Somerset County Recovery Court project as presented.

Next, Mr. Taylor advised the Board that upon hearing the proposed cost (\$537,000) to redesign the former Treasure's Office as the Master's Court, Judge Powell has requested that a cost comparison to build a new Annex building at the current site be considered. Sketch plans for a new Master's Court was discussed; including requested changes to the existing courthouse. Design plans by Mr. Finith Jernigan, of Design Atlantic would cost approximately \$10,000; and it is anticipated that a new building, as requested, would cost approximately \$1.2 million to build. It was noted however that a new building would be a better layout, and provide room for growth, by adding a second floor, whereas the concept for the former Treasure's Office did not. It was questioned if the former PNC Bank building is still available. Mr. Taylor stated he would check into it and report back to the Board. It was decided to table the request until the full board is present.

A request was received from Mr. Gary Pusey, Planning Director to re-appoint Mr. John Murray, Jr., to the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board. Mr. Murray has indicated he would like to continue serving.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 3-0 to re-appoint Mr. John Murray Jr., to the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board.

A request was received from Mr. Gary Pusey, Planning Director to re-appoint Mr. Jeremy Mason to the Planning Commission for a five (5) year term. Mr. Mason has stated he is interested to continue serving.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 3-0 to re-appoint Mr. Mason to the Planning Commission.

A request was received from Mr. Joe Abe, Coast Smart Council, requesting Somerset County appoint a new representative to the council to replace Mr. Tom Lawton, who retired. Mr. Gary Pusey has recommended Ms. Mary Phillips, Zoning Specialist, as Mr. Lawton's replacement on this council. It was noted that the council meets every few months.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 3-0 to appoint Ms. Mary Phillips to serve on the Coast Smart Council.

With no further business, at 1:20 p.m., the Board was advised of the need of a Closed Session. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Mathies, it carried 3-0 to enter into Closed Session by Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland Section Subtitle 3-305 (b) (1) 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)(8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

A brief recess was taken. Commissioner Simpkins arrived during this time.

At 1:37 upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, 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)(1) 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)(8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

At 2:10 p.m. the Open and Closed Session meetings were adjourned.

Approved by:



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Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



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Lory E. Ebron  
Executive Aide