



AGENDA
October 30, 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. - 25 Year Service Award Presentation- Ms. Alice Bromley
- * 2:05 p.m. - Mr. Gary Pusey, Ms. Kristen Tremblay- DTCS
- Rural Legacy Grant Agreement MOU
 - Request for Lien Releases- Housing Rehabilitation Grant (3)
 - Request for Waiver of Permit Fees-Living Hope Ministries of the Eastern Shore, Inc.

Correspondence:

Received

Federal Emergency Management Agency re: Letter of Map Revision (LOMR)-Case No: 18-03-1920P
Federal Emergency Management Agency re: Letter of Map Revision (LOMR)-Case No: 18-03-1921P
Ms. Janet C. McIntyre re: Sanitary Commission/Notice of Resignation

Sent

Rural Legacy Board re: Transfer of Sponsorship

Discussion:

- * 1. Surplus Property
- * 2. Planning Commission Vacancy (1)
- * 3. Pre-Trial Services Grant Award

2:30 pm. - Closed Session- Ralph D. Taylor

Authority of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland § 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 (8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
TUESDAY OCTOBER 30, 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 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.

Closed Session Summary Report October 30, 2018

On October 30, 2018, at 2:34 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to enter into Closed Session by Authority of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland §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 Vice President Charles F. Fisher, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston, Commissioner Craig Mathies Sr., and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Aide Lory Ebron, HR Director Erica Yeager and Director of Technical and Community Services Gary Pusey. Topics discussed were: (1) Hiring of Office Assistant II (2) Health Officer Vacancy (3) Disciplinary Action (4) Potential Litigation. Actions taken during closed session: (1) Approval to hire Office Assistant II (2) Approval to advertise for Deputy Health Officer.

Meeting minutes were presented for approval regarding the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on October 16, 2018. Commissioner Boston made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Fisher seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Alice Bromley and Attorney Phillip Widdowson came forward at this time in recognition of Ms. Bromley's 25 years of service to Somerset County. Following the

presentation of the certificate of recognition, the Board personally thanked Ms. Bromley for her many years of service.

Mr. Gary Pusey and Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Department of Technical and Community Services (DTCS) came forward.

Ms. Tremblay first presented the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Fiscal Year 2019 Dividing Creek Rural Legacy Area Project. The purpose of the MOU is to outline the duties of all parties involved (Somerset, Worcester and the Lower Shore Land Trust). It was noted that Attorney Simpkins has reviewed the document and found it legally sufficient.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the MOU for the FY19 Dividing Creek Rural Legacy Area Project as presented.

Next, Mr. Pusey presented the following Housing Rehabilitation Grant lien releases for the Boards consideration:

- 8561 Millard Long Road, Westover/Anna Mae Robertson. Ms. Robertson has passed away and the grant expiration is February 2021. The balance due is \$4,095.00. The house is to be sold and the lien will not be released until the balance owed is paid. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Mathies and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the release.
- 31972 Barkley Lane, Eden/Shirley Poole. The lien amount was \$4,995.00 and expired in August 2016. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the lien release as presented.
- 28850 Polks Road, Princess Anne/Clarice Hitch. The lien amount was \$3,950.00 and expired in May 2016. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to authorize President Laird to sign the lien release as presented.

Lastly, Mr. Pusey presented a building permit fee waiver request, received from Pastor M LeBron Palmer, Living Hope Ministries of the Eastern Shore, Inc. in the amount of \$1,309.00 as they are adding an accessory multi-ministry building adjacent to their existing church.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to approve the fee waiver request from Living Hope Ministries for \$1,309.00.

Mr. Taylor continued with correspondence and discussion items as Ms. Mary Phillips, DTCS came forward.

Letters were received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding revisions to the Flood Insurance Rate Map for Somerset County. The revisions pertained to a relocation of the "Limit of MODERATE Wave Action Line," or "LiMWA," on the adopted maps, and a change in the Base Flood Elevation from 7' to 5' in the Edelen Webster

Road area on Deal Island. Ms. Phillips explained that it came to her attention that the FEMA maps adopted by Somerset County in 2015 had the LiMWA line drawn farther inland than what might be expected. For the past two years Ms. Phillips has been working with FEMA representatives to take another look at the delineation, and consider revising the boundaries. One of the letters received from FEMA is the official notification that the LiMWA line is officially relocated closer to the shoreline for many areas of the County, reducing certain regulations required by the County's Floodplain Ordinance by issuance of a LOMR (Letter of Map Revision effective October 17, 2018). It was noted that these revisions will not take the properties out of a flood zone area, but will reduce the extra requirements that would have been needed to build. During FEMA's review of the LiMWA line requested by the County, FEMA discovered the Base Flood Elevation, shown on the adopted map, in the area of the Edelen Webster Road area was in error and needed to be revised. The second letter from FEMA documented that this change is also being made, but would need to follow protocol for the regulatory requirements of notification, appeal period and issuance and it will not be effective immediately like the change to the LiMWA. It was also noted that the department continues to work on the Community Rating System (CRS) which when in place, will offer a 10% flood insurance discount to Somerset County property owners. The Board expressed their sincerest gratitude to Ms. Phillips and Mr. Pusey for all of their hard work and due diligence.

A letter was received from Ms. Janet McIntyre advising of her resignation from the Sanitary District as the Member at Large. Noting her position was being phased out in January 2019 to allow the Westover District to have their own representative, she noted her agreement that each district will have a member who is a resident and a customer of services provided by the Sanitary District. A brief discussion was held regarding finding a replacement from now until January. It was decided that the matter will be addressed further at the next meeting.

A request was received from Ms. Jennifer Miller to purchase county surplus property offered at half deed price. Ms. Miller offered to buy 4041 Tyler Road, 10-002583 for \$2,693.00 plus closing costs.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, it carried 5-0 to approve the purchase of 4041 Tyler Road (10-002583) to Ms. Jennifer Miller for \$2,693.00 plus closing costs.

The Board next discussed the current vacancy on the Planning Commission following the resignation of Mr. Bob Fitzgerald. Commissioner Fisher advised that Mr. Matthew Webster has expressed his interest to serve on this commission.

Therefore, Commissioner Fisher made a motion to appoint Mr. Matthew Webster to serve on the Planning Commission to complete Mr. Fitzgerald's term, expiring in January 2022. Commissioner Boston seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Taylor next advised that Warden Hickman has received notice of the approval of the annual Pre-Trial Services grant award in the amount of \$95,825.00. The application for this grant was presented by the Honorable Judge Powell and Judge Long, as well as Warden Hickman in July, and will be applied for every year going forward. It was noted that there may be a need to hire an additional person with the added responsibilities, however it is anticipated that having this program in place will save on medical and meal costs at the Detention Center. Warden Hickman will be the signing authority for this grant.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston, it carried 5-0 to accept the grant award in the amount of \$95,825.00, and permit Warden Hickman to be the signing authority for the grant.

President Laird then requested to discuss a matter regarding a request to waive interest fee's due regarding late payment of taxes. Mr. Pat Reese has requested a waiver of interest fee's owed for tax payments that were received after the September 30th date which was denied. He expressed through his employee, that there are some counties that will accept postmark dates, and that the county is only looking out for itself rather than its citizens. Commissioner Boston noted that the postmark on Mr. Reese's envelope was October 2. Additionally Commissioner Boston questioned if the county should continue to use the post office box as the 'mail to' address rather than our street address. Payments can also be taken in person to the tax office for same day payment. It was noted that tax bills are due when the bill is received (being mailed in July) and out of all the tax bills sent out to residents this year, there were approximately twelve tax payments that were received after September 30th that were charged the late interest fee. Mr. Taylor advised he would look into what counties accept postmarks for payments received.

With no further business, at 2:34 p.m. upon a motion made by Commissioner Boston, and seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Commissioner Open and Closed Session meetings were adjourned. The motion carried 5-0.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide