



**SPECIAL SESSION AGENDA
FEBRUARY 13, 2018
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
11916 Somerset Avenue
Room 111/Meeting Room
Princess Anne, MD 21853
2:00 p.m.**

Appointment:

- * 2:00 p.m. - Mr. Gary Pusey, Department of Technical and Community Services
 - Permit Fee Waiver Request/Westover Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
 - DNR Grant Application Approval
 - (1) Deal Island Drainage Assessment
 - (2) Smith Island Drainage Project
- * 2:10 p.m. - Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Solid Waste and Maintenance
 - FY19 Transfer Station/Landfill Tipping Fees

Correspondence:

Received

Maryland Department of the Environment re: SI Wastewater Treatment Plant Amendment

Sent

Mr. David Mason re: Waiver of Permit Fees

Discussion:

1. Surplus Property
2. MD 364/Diving Creek Road Bridge Closure
3. Adult Guardianship Review Board Vacancy (2)
4. Agricultural Reconciliation Board Vacancy (1)

**2:30 p.m. - Closed Session- Mr. Ralph Taylor, Mr. Gene Adkins, Mr. Willis Dryden,
Ms. Erica Yeager**

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.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
SPECIAL SESSION
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2018

At 2:00 p.m. the Board of Somerset County Commissioners met in Special Session with 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 asked that Commissioner Mathies lead those in attendance in repeating the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session Summary Report for February 13, 2018

On February 13, 2018, at 2:35 p.m. until 2:43 p.m., at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher 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, Subtitle 3-305 (b) (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.

Present for the Closed Session Meeting were President Randy Laird, Vice President Charles F. Fisher, Commissioner Jerry S. Boston, Commissioner Rex Simpkins and Commissioner Craig Mathies Sr. Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Secretary Kimberly Lopez, HR Director Erica Yeager and Director of Finance and Accounting Mr. Gene Adkins, and Tax Collection Supervisor Mr. Willis Dryden. Topics discussed were: (1) Hiring. Actions taken during closed session: (1) Approval to hire Tax Collection Specialist.

Mr. Taylor began the meeting by inviting Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Technical and Community Services, to come forward.

Mr. Pusey advised the Board of a letter received from the Trustees of the Westover Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses requesting a fee waiver in the amount of \$200.00 (\$100.00

for a Zoning Application and \$100.00 for a Utility Application) for the construction of their Kingdom Hall project located at 31281 Curtis Chapel Rd in Westover, Maryland 21890.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Boston to waive the \$200.00 in the application fees for the Westover Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall project. This motion carried 5-0.

Next Mr. Pusey requested the Board's approval to apply for two grants through the DNR Coastal Resiliency Program for:

1. Smith Island – Drainage Improvements Designs Program
2. Deal Island – Drainage Study

Mr. Pusey invited Mr. John Redden, Director of Public Works, to come forward and provided a summary of a study completed two years ago (through a similar grant application and the Board's support) where a hired engineering consultant recommended several improvements that could be made to help alleviate some areas of flooding on the Island. Using these same grant funds (with the Board's approval to submit an application to DNR) detailed design work can be completed on Smith Island as well as obtain permits to eventually apply for grant funding for the construction work. A separate grant application is requested for two areas in Deal Island that need to be addressed as well (Dames Quarter and Oriole). Mr. Pusey advised that staff, including Mr. Woody Barnes, Mr. John Redden, Mr. Charles Cavanaugh and others from the Technical and Community Services office have met with the residents of those areas specified and are in support of the application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to authorize Mr. Pusey to apply for two grants through the DNR Coastal Resiliency Program for 1. Deal Island – Drainage Study and 2: Smith Island – Drainage Improvements Designs Program. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Pusey left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance, was now before the Board to discuss the FY19 Transfer Station/Landfill Tipping Fees. Mr. Cavanaugh began by providing a handout to the Board outlining the current Transfer Station/Landfill Tipping Fees and the projected revenue for FY19 if no changes were made to the fees. A brief discussion was held in regards to the current fees and possible increases.

Following this discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston to keep the Transfer Station/Landfill Tipping Fees the same (\$60 Transfer Station fee and \$66 Tipping Fee) for FY19. This motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Redden discussed roof repair/replacement for the Emergency Services Department. Mr. Redden advised that \$30,000.00 was budgeted to strip the old roof and replace it with new, however have since been advised (by a contractor) that the job will cost \$47,500.00. With the minor repairs to the roof sufficient for now, the Board advised Mr. Cavanaugh to collect at least three bids for this project.

Mr. Redden and Mr. Cavanaugh left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Yvette Cross, Director of Emergency Services, was now before the Board to discuss Emergency Services Phone System Maintenance Agreement. Ms. Cross advised the Board that as of April 1, 2018, Verizon will no longer be in the 911 business. She then advised that Carousel is the only vendor supporting 911 services. This new service is an additional \$1,200.00 a month (\$3,600.00 for the remaining of the fiscal year).

On a motion made by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Mathies, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the \$3,600.00 overage for the new Emergency Services Phone System Maintenance Agreement.

Ms. Cross left the meeting at this time.

Next, Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence received and sent, advising the Board of a letter of support request from Comptroller Franchot regarding House Bill 518, the *Reform on Tap Act of 2018*.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boston and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to support Comptroller Franchot's legislative package proposing a series of reforms to Maryland's outdated and antiquated beer laws. This motion carried 4-0-1 (with Commissioner Mathies abstaining from the vote).

Under discussion items, Mr. Taylor advised the Board that Ms. Denise Jones wishes to withdraw from the purchase of property on Riley Roberts Road (Tax Acct #11-00114).

Commissioner Simpkins rescinded his vote to authorize sale of property on Riley Roberts Road (Tax Acct #11-00114) to Ms. Denise Jones. Commissioner Fisher rescinded his second. This carried 5-0.

Mr. Taylor then advised that Mr. Julian Vismale offered \$90.00 for property on Riley Roberts Road (Tax Acct #11-00114).

A motion was made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston to offer the property on Riley Roberts Road (Tax Acct #11-00114) for the price of \$90.00 (plus closing costs). This motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Taylor advised the Board of a call he received from Mr. Jay Meredith with the State Highway Association informing of the full closure of Dividing Creek Road Bridge next summer (Memorial Day through Labor Day) for repairs. The public will be notified of this closure closer to that time and the intended detour route.

Mr. Taylor then presented a request to waive tipping fees for Mr. James Tabor of 8103 Halls Creek Rd, Upper Fairmount, MD 21871 in regards to cleanup due to a house fire.

On a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins, the Board voted 5-0 to waive the tipping fees for the cleanup of 8103 Halls Creek Rd, Upper Fairmount, MD 21871.

Mr. Taylor advised the Board of vacancies on the Adult Guardianship Review Board (1) and the Agricultural Reconciliation Board (1). The members of the Board did not have any nominees at this time.

With no further business to discuss in Open Session, Mr. Taylor advised the Board for the need of a Closed Session.

Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Fisher and seconded by Commissioner Boston, at 2:35 p.m., the Board entered into Closed Session by Authority of State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Subtitle 3-305 (b) (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. This motion carried 5-0.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Kimberly Lopez
Executive Secretary