



AGENDA
May 14, 2019
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
11916 Somerset Avenue
Room 111/Meeting Room
Princess Anne, MD 21853
1:00 p.m.

Appointments:

- * 1:00 p.m. - Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance
 - Bulldozer Loan/Resolution Approval
- * 1:05 p.m. - Ms. Sherree Marshall, Department on Aging
 - Annual Operating Activities Grant Approval
- * 1:10 p.m. - Mr. Gary Pusey, Dee Savarese, Department of Technical and Community Services
 - CDBG Application/Resolution Approval
 - 30039 Mt. Vernon Road Offer
- * 1:20 p.m. - Ms. Julie Widdowson, Tourism
 - MOU/Crisfield Tourism Office
- * 1:25 p.m. - Ms. Yvette Cross, Emergency Services (Co-Leader)
 - Health Department Grant Application/Opioid Intervention
- * 1:30 p.m. - Ms. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor
 - LGIT Sponsorship/Somerset County Library and Sanitary District

Correspondence:

Sent

DHCD, Div. of Neighborhood Revitalization re: Letter of Support/Smith Island Technical Assistance Grant
MD Dept. of Natural Resources re: Letters of Support/Crisfield Drainage, Princess Anne Drainage
Mr. Bradley A. Bellacicco, Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of MD re: Transfer of Funds
Mr. Gary Pusey, DTCS re: Re-Appointment Board of Zoning Appeals

Discussion:

- * 1. Pauper Burial Request/Tenner
- * 2. Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board Vacancy (1)
- * 3. Building and Plumbing Code Appeals Board Reappointment (1)

Public Comments (5 minute time limit to speak)

- * **1:45 p.m. – Closed Session, Ralph Taylor, Clint Sterling, Kirk Simpkins, Danny Thompson, Sharon Muir, Gene Adkins, Tim Doyle, Mary M. DiFerdinando**
 - 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; (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Public Hearing 7:00 p.m. (Room 111/Meeting Room)

- Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance
 - Notice of Proposed Real Property Tax Rate Announcement

* Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
May 14, 2019

At 1:00 p.m., President Craig Mathies, Sr., called the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County to open in Regular Session. Also present for the meeting Commissioner Vice President Charles Laird, Commissioner Randy Laird, and Commissioner Eldon Willing. Commissioner Simpkins was not present at this time.

County Administrator-Clerk Ralph D. Taylor and Executive Aide Lory E. Ebron were also present.

President Mathies asked Commissioner Willing to lead those present in Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Closed Session Summary Report May 14, 2019

On May 14, 2019, at 1:34 p.m. until 2:20 p.m., at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird it carried unanimously 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 (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Present for the Closed Session Meeting were Commissioner President Craig N. Mathies, Sr., Vice President Charles Laird, Commissioner Randy Laird, Commissioner Eldon Willing and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

Also present were Mr. Ralph D. Taylor, Ms. Lory Ebron, Mr. Clint Sterling, Mr. Kirk Simpkins, Mr. Danny Thompson, Ms. Sharon Muir, Mr. Gene Adkins, Mr. Tim Doyle and Ms. Mary DiFerdinando. Topics discussed were: (1) Hiring of PT Golf Course Cart Attendant (2) Confidential Matter. Actions taken during closed session: (1) Approval to hire PT Golf Course Cart Attendant.

Meeting minutes were presented for approval regarding the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on April 30, 2019. Vice President Charles Laird made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Willing seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Gene Adkins, Finance Director came forward at this time request the Boards approval for signature on the Bulldozer loan and required resolution. He provided a summary of the process to date, noting that a public hearing was held on March 5, 2019 proposing to borrow \$400,000 for the purchase of this bulldozer for the landfill. "Requests for Proposals" were requested and three received. Approval was made during that meeting to award the proposal received from B B & T Bank for a 6-year 2.83% interest rate loan, which is being presented today. He then requested the Boards approval for the President's signature on the loan documents, as well as the bank resolution for the loan.

A motion was made by Vice President Laird to authorize President Mathies to sign the loan documents and resolution presented regarding the Bulldozer loan in the amount of \$400,000. The motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Sherree Marshall, Commission on Aging Director, came forward at this time to present the annual Senior Citizen Activities Center Activities Center Operating Fund Grant for FY20 in the amount of \$46,111.75. This grant will fund critical needs and health promotions for Commission on Aging.

A motion was made by Commissioner Randy Laird to approve the FY20 Senior Citizen Activities Center Activities Center Operating grant application for \$46,111.75. Commissioner Willing seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Gary Pusey and Ms. Dee Savarese, Department of Technical and Community Services came forward at this time.

Mr. Pusey reviewed the Public Hearing held two weeks ago (on April 30, 2019) regarding the submission for CDBG funding for a Blight Removal Program in Somerset County. Mr. Taylor advised that a favorable written comment was received and read aloud from Mark and Robin Simmons during the public hearing. Additionally, written comments in favor of the program for blight removal were also received from Ms. Tammy Truitt and Mr. Jack Schermerhorn. Mr. Pusey then requested the Board's support and approval for the submission of the CDBG application in the amount of \$800,000 to fund the Blight Removal Program in Somerset County, Maryland. Mr. Pusey also presented Resolution No. 1141, a requirement for the grant submission.

Upon a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird, it carried 4-0 to move forward with the application for the CDBG grant application to fund the Blight Removal Program and approve Resolution No. 1141.

Next, Mr. Pusey discussed the three homes purchased by the county as temporary housing for residents who were having their homes replaced following Hurricane Sandy, that are now being sold. He explained that offers received for the first two homes that went under contract were made for the full-appraised value (less 10% as sale is being geared to low/moderate income borrowers). The offer received for the third home, 30039 Mt. Vernon Road was for \$130,000. The appraised value for this home was \$142,000. Mr. Pusey advised it would be under the Board's consideration to accept this offer as staff does not have the authority.

Options available included:

- Accept the offer of \$130,000 minus the 10% (\$117,000)
- Make a counter offer
- Accept the offer of \$130,000 and place a lien on the entire difference between the appraised value of \$142,000 and the reduced price of \$117,000 (18% difference instead of 10%)

President Mathies questioned the reason for the lower offer. It was explained that there were needed repairs and with this offer, the buyers would accept the property "as-is". It was noted that the other two homes (offered at full appraised value), also needed repairs, which the county addressed. Mr. Pusey was asked to obtain cost estimates to make the needed repairs in order to aid the Board with making their decision.

Ms. Julie Widdowson, Tourism Director, came forward at this time to present an updated MOU regarding the partnership with the Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce and the Visitor's Center. The original MOU had a term of three years, which expires May 2019. This revised MOU simply removes "start-up" language contained in the original MOU. An annual appropriation of \$25,000 will continue to be paid to the Crisfield Chamber in three installments (May 1, July 1 and September 1).

Commissioner Simpkins arrived to the meeting at this time.

Ms. Widdowson continued, explaining the good partnership, and continued success of the Visitor's Center, which on average is receiving 3800 people annually. The MOU was read into record by Ms. Widdowson.

A motion was made by Commissioner Randy Laird to authorize President Mathies to sign the MOU between The Board of Commissioners for Somerset County and the Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Yvette Cross, Emergency Services Director came forward at this time.

A grant was presented for the President's signature for funds provided by the Opioid Operational Command Center to address the issues surrounding the opioid epidemic in Somerset County. Health Officer Ms. Lori Brewster and Ms. Yvette Cross, Emergency Services Director, are co-chairs serving on the Opioid Intervention Team. The grant application in the amount of \$89,020 will provide the following services:

- \$52,199 will be used for salary and fringe, office expenses for a Peer Recovery Support Specialist/Health Department employee
- \$20,821 will be used for the Somerset County Opioid United Team (SCOUT) to educate the community and includes costs associated the "Unmasked Addiction" campaign, direct mailing campaign, resource cards for law enforcement, and costs associated to have a guest speaker address our children both our high schools.
- \$16,000 will be used for Law Enforcement Support

A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird to authorize President Mathies' signature on the Opioid Operational Command Center Grant as presented. Commissioner Simpkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence sent at this time.

Next, Mr. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor, came forward at this time to present a request to approve the LGIT sponsorship of the Somerset County Library System and the Somerset County Sanitary District as participants in the Local Government Insurance Trust Liability and Property Pools of insurance coverage. She explained that pursuant to the LGIT Trust Agreement, the county must submit "Public Entity" sponsorship letters for the 2019-2020 renewal-year for these two component units that the county sponsors.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, it carried unanimously to authorize President Mathies to sign the Public Entity sponsorship letters for the 2019-2020 renewal year presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor continued with discussion items at this time.

Assistance for a pauper burial funeral was requested from the family of Mr. Frederick Tenner, Jr.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, assistance in the amount of \$250.00 was approved to contribute towards a basic service for Mr. Tenner. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board was advised that Mr. Ray Somers has agreed to serve as a member of the Building and Plumbing Codes Appeals Board for another three-year term.

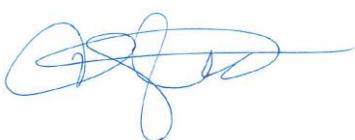
A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to approve Mr. Ray Somers to serve as a member of the Building and Plumbing Codes Appeals Board for another three-year term expiring May 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jerry Boston, 10272 Charles Boston Road, Princess Anne Maryland requested to address the Board. Mr. Boston advised that he was unable to attend the Public Hearing tonight and wanted to compliment the Board on working on the budget. He stated his appreciation for the decision for no tax increase. He thanked the Board, and wanted to express his appreciation noting that you don't often get too many people coming to the meeting to say you're doing a good job.

With no further business, the Board was advised for the need of a Closed Session at 1:34 pm. The Board entered into Closed Session upon a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird, 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 (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

The Commissioner and Closed Session meetings adjourned at 2:20 p.m. upon a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide