

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY  
SPECIAL SESSION  
TUESDAY OCTOBER 8, 2019

At 2:34 p.m., the Board of Somerset County Commissioners met in Special Session with Commissioner President Craig Mathies, Sr. Commissioner Vice President Charles Laird, Commissioner Randy Laird, Commissioner Eldon Willing and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

Also in attendance were County Administrator-Clerk Ralph D. Taylor and Executive Secretary Kimberly Lopez.

**Closed Session Summary Report for October 8, 2019**

On October 8, 2019, from 2:50 p.m. until 3:53 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 5-0 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) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition; and (b) (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; and (b) (8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Present for the Closed Session Meeting were President Craig Mathies, Sr., Vice President Charles Laird, Commissioner Rex Simpkins, Commissioner Randy Laird, and Commissioner Eldon Willing. Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Secretary Kimberly Lopez, Attorney Kirk Simpkins, IT Director Chris Woodward, Public Works Director John Redden, Solid Waste Director Charles Cavanaugh, and Human Resources Director Erica Yeager. Topics discussed were: (1) Personnel; Actions taken: Promotion of Dog Control Officer, Hiring of Senior Systems Engineer & Building Custodian, Regrading of Public Works Director (2) Property Discussion; Actions taken: None (3) Legal Discussion; Actions taken: None.

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Mr. John Redden was before the Board to present the bid award recommendation for the Airport Obstruction Removal Project (Base Bid + Add-Alt. 2). Mr. Redden advised of a corrected amount of \$672,079.08 with Economy Tree Service, Inc. (the lowest bidder).

A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird to award the Airport Obstruction Removal Project (Base Bid + Add-Alt. 2) to Economy Tree Service, Inc. with the amount of \$672,079.08. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Redden left the meeting.

Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence received, and advised that the Somers Cove Marina Commission has requested Mr. John Gaddis be reappointed for a second term beginning January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2024 (his current term will expire on December 31, 2019). The Board decided to discuss this further at a later date.

Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence sent.

Under discussion items, Mr. Taylor advised of a vacancy on the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board. The Board will name nominees at a future meeting.

Mr. Taylor advised nominees were needed for the Maryland Association of Counties 2020 Legislative Committee.

On a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Willing, the Board voted 5-0 for President Mathies and Vice President Charles Laird to continue serving on the Maryland Association of Counties 2020 Legislative Committee as alternate (President Mathies) and primary (Vice President Laird).

Mr. Taylor advised nominees were needed for the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair and Secretary).

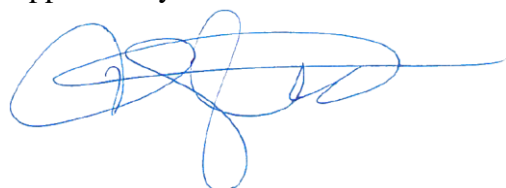
A motion was made by Vice President Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird for Commissioner Simpkins to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair and Commissioner Willing to serve as Secretary on the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore. This motion carried 5-0.

The Board was then advised for the need of a Closed Session.

Therefore, at 2:50 pm, on a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird that carried 5-0, the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County entered 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) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition;

and (b) (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice; and (b) (8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Board of County Commissioners  
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly Lopez".

Kimberly Lopez  
Executive Secretary