



SPECIAL SESSION AGENDA
September 24, 2019
COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
11916 Somerset Avenue
Room 111/Meeting Room
Princess Anne, MD 21853
2:00 p.m.

Appointments

- * 2:00 pm. - Mr. Gary Pusey, Ms. Kristen Tremblay, DTCS
 - Great Bay Solar PH II Decommission Plan
- * 2:20 p.m. – Mr. John Redden, Charles Cavanaugh, DPW
 - Lease Agreement/Howard H. Anderson Agricultural Building
 - Crisfield-Somerset County Airport Grant AIP No. 3-24-0012-015-2019

Correspondence

Received

Secretary Pete K. Rahn, MDOT re: FY2020-FY2025 CTP
Garland Hayward, Chairman, Local Management Board re: Appointments (3)

Sent

Mr. Timothy H. Howlett re: September 3, 2019 Public Hearing Comments/Questions

Discussion:

- * 1. Local Management Board Lease Renewal
- * 2. Surplus Property Offers (4)
- * 3. Request to utilize County Land/Messick Farm
- * 4. Proclamation Approval

Public Comments- 5-minute time limit

2:45 p.m. - CLOSED SESSION- Ralph D. Taylor, Erica Yeager, Wayne Strausburg, Gary Pusey

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 (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
SPECIAL SESSION
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

At 2:00 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 September 24, 2019

On September 24, 2019, from 2:53 p.m. until 3:39 p.m., at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles 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 (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition.

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, Wicomico County Director of Administration Wayne Strausburg, Wicomico County Assistant Director of Administration Weston Young, Wicomico County Director of Public Works Dallas Baker, Technical & Community Services Director Gary Pusey, and Human Resources Director Erica Yeager. Topics discussed were: (1) Personnel; Actions taken: Hiring of Zoning & Nuisance Enforcement Officer (2) Property Discussion; Actions taken: None.

President Mathies called the meeting to order and asked Commissioner Willing to lead those in attendance in devotion. Following a brief quote, the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were recited.

Mr. Gary Pusey, Director of Technical & Community Services, Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Assistant Director of Technical & Community Services, Mr. Dane Bauer and Ms. Melissa Hall

with H&B Solutions, LLC were now before the Board to present the Great Bay Solar Phase II Decommission Plan. Mr. Pusey began by providing a summary of Phase I's Decommission Plan and what they've learned since its execution. He then advised that the Phase II Decommission Plan has been presented to and approved by the Planning Commission in June 2019. The plan has since been reviewed by Mr. Pusey, Mr. Tremblay, Mr. John Redden, and County Attorney Kirk Simpkins, all of whom found the plan to be satisfactory.

Mr. Bauer then addressed the Board and provided information about their company and involvement with the assisting of the Great Bay Solar Phase II Decommission Plan. A brief review of the Plan was then provided for the Board.

Vice President Charles Laird inquired about bonds for each Phase, to which Mr. Pusey advised a Letter of Credit would be issued and not a bond. A discussion was held in regards to the difference between Bonds and Letters of Credit.

Commissioner Randy Laird questioned the longevity of the panels and inquired how they would be replaced should they go bad. Mr. Bauer advised that non-functioning panels would be replaced with new or the site would be terminated and rebuilt.

Discussion continued regarding the Letter of Credit with the Board requesting the document be reviewed by County Attorney Kirk Simpkins. Mr. Pusey advised that it would.

President Mathies then opened the meeting for public comment.

Ms. Tammy Truitt (District 4) addressed the Board and expressed concern over the proposed panels for the project, stating the lack of published information (regarding hazardous materials and contact information) and that the foreign made (China) panels and its company were in financial troubles, resulting in them being delisted from numerous locations across the globe. Ms. Truitt then referenced Hurricane Dorian the unstable conditions of solar panels in North Carolina during the storm, stating they "moved like waves in the ocean". Ms. Truitt urged the Board to ensure that Great Bay has an insurance policy in place to cover damages should the County experience and unfortunate occurrence such as North Carolina.

Ms. Chris Widdowson (West Post Office Rd) then addressed the Board and provided a written statement which she then read aloud (copies of this statement were provided to each of the Commissioners during the Ms. Widdowson's comment and a copy is attached to the minutes).

Mr. Ron DeClemment (Old Princess Anne Rd) addressed the Board and expressed concerns over the bank and what would happen to the funds if Algonquin/Great Bay were to file Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. Mr. DeClemment was advised the Letter of Credit is Algonquin's money that has been set aside in a separate bank account that is frozen (only to be drawn upon by the County). Mr. DeClemment inquired of the feasibility of the solar project once natural gas becomes available in the County.

Vice President Charles Laird advised the Board would obtain a legal opinion regarding Mr. DeClemment's comments/questions.

President Mathies then asked if there were any proponents wishing to speak. There being none, the Board thanked those members of the audience for their comments.

Before exiting the meeting, Ms. Truitt provided Mr. Taylor with documents pertaining to her comments (copies of these documents were provided for the Board).

Mr. John Redden, Director of Public Works, was now before the Board to present the lease agreement for the Howard H. Anderson Agricultural Building for President Mathies' signature, advising that the current tenants have agreed to \$16 per square foot.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize President Mathies' signature on the lease agreement for the Howard H. Anderson Agricultural Building.

Next, Mr. Redden presented the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport AIP No. 3-24-0012-015-2019 for the Board's approval.

On a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport AIP No. 3-24-0012-015-2019.

Mr. Taylor reviewed correspondence received and sent. Included in correspondence received was a letter from Mr. Garland Hayward, Chairman of the Local Management Board, requesting the approval and appointment of three new members to the LMB: Jennifer Loring, Jennifer Small, and Germaine Richardson.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird, seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, the Board approved the appointments of Jennifer Loring, Jennifer Small, and Germaine Richardson to the Local Management Board. This motion carried 4-0-1 (President Mathies abstained).

Under discussion items, Mr. Taylor requested the Board's approval for the extension Local Management Board Lease Renewal at the Behavioral Health Center (in concurrence with previous years of \$1).

A motion was made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird to approve the extension of Lease Renewal for the Local Management Board at the Behavioral Health Center in the amount of \$1. This motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Taylor presented the following surplus property offers:

Mr. Jon Robertson in the amount of \$728 for property ID 06-099971.

Motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Willing to approve the sale of property ID 06-099971 to Mr. Jon Robertson in the amount of \$728. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Jon Robertson in the amount of \$1,139 for property ID 07-120109.

On a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird, seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, the Board approved the sale of property ID 07-120109 to Mr. Jon Robertson in the amount of \$1,139. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Jon Robertson in the amount of \$924 for property ID 12-012977.

Motion was made by Commissioner Randy Laird, seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, to approve the sale of property ID 12-012977 to Mr. Jon Robertson in the amount of \$924. This motion carried 5-0.

Mr. George Sackett in the amount of \$1,046.50 for property ID 12-007078.

On a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird, the Board approved the sale of property ID 12-007078. This motion carried 5-0.

Next, Mr. Taylor advised of a request received from Hopkins Construction (the company working on the sewer lines from the decommissioning of the Lower Hill Sanitary Station) to use the Messick Farm to store some of their equipment during the duration of their work.

This was approved upon a consensus from the Board.

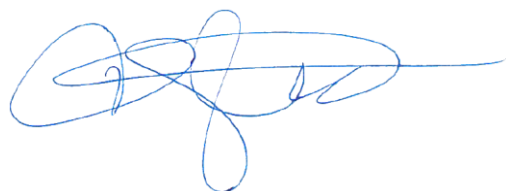
Mr. Taylor presented a proclamation request for the Maryland State Class of 1969.

A motion was made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles Laird to approve the proclamation request for the Maryland State Class of 1969. This motion carried 5-0.

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

Therefore, at 2:53 pm, on a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Vice President Charles 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 (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Randy Laird", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Kimberly Lopez".

Kimberly Lopez
Executive Secretary