

Due to State regulations with COVID-19, social distancing will be observed during the meeting and members of the public in attendance must wear a face mask. Live audio of the meeting will be available by clicking on the link provided on the County's website, or by entering this web address in your internet address bar: http://mixlr.com/somerset_county_commissioners/ Minutes will be made available to the public via the County's website upon approval. We thank you for your cooperation during this time.



AGENDA
April 27, 2021
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. Charles Cavanaugh, Director
 - Bid Recommendation/Power Wash and Painting/Roads Maintenance Building
- * 1:05 p.m. - Mr. Clint Sterling, Director
 - Bid Recommendation/Burgess Storage Facility, Grounds, Contents
 - Parks Infrastructure Funding
- * 1:15 p.m. - Mr. John Redden, County Engineer
 - Bid Recommendation/Airport Consulting Services
- * 1:20 p.m. - Ms. Yvette Cross, Director
 - Adoption of Flood Mitigation Plan/Resolution Approval
- * 1:30 p.m. - Mr. Gary Pusey, DTCS
 - Grant Agreement/Deal Island Shoreline Project
 - MD Department of Housing and Community Development re: 2021 Annual Housing Bond Allocation

Correspondence:

Received

Secretary Dennis R. Schrader, MD Department of Health re: Health Officer Appointment

Sent

Secretary Gregory Slater, MDOT re: Priority Letter Recommended Transportation Improvements

Dr. John B. Gaddis, Superintendent re: Inter-category Budget Transfers FY21

Mr. Ed Goyda, Director re: Library Board of Trustee Appointments (2)

Discussion:

1. Sanitary Commission Vacancy (Princess Anne Service Area)

Public Comments: Members of the audience who have signed up to address the Board will be permitted to do so at this time and allotted 5 minutes.

1:45 p.m. - Closed Session- Mr. Ralph Taylor, Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Mr. Clint Sterling

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.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
April 27, 2021

At 1:00 p.m., President Craig N. Mathies, Sr., called the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County to open in Regular Session. Also present for the meeting were Vice President Charles Laird, Commissioner Randy Laird, Commissioner Eldon Willing and Commissioner Rex Simpkins.

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

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

Closed Session Summary Report

On April 27, 2021, from 1:24 p.m. until 1:58 p.m., at 11916 Somerset Avenue, Room 111, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Willing, with Commissioner Randy Laird and Vice President Charles Laird voting in favor, the motion carried 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 (8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

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

Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Aide Lory Ebron, HR Director Morena Corbin, Recreation and Parks/Tourism Director Clint Sterling and Director of Solid Waste and Maintenance Charles Cavanaugh.

Topics discussed: (1) Airport Easement (2) PT Groundskeeper Hire. Actions taken during closed session: (1) Approval of negotiation (2) Hiring of PT Groundskeeper.

Minutes from the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on April 13, 2021, and Special and Closed Session meetings held on April 6, 2021, were approved as presented upon a motion made by Commissioner Eldon Willing, seconded by Commissioner Simpkins.

Commissioner Randy Laird and Vice President Charles Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Mr. Cavanaugh first came forward to present his recommendation regarding sealed bids to power wash and paint the Roads Maintenance Building. The list of submitted bids, listing in order by price was provided. Mr. Cavanaugh recommended awarding the bid to the low bidder, David Barone Painting for \$17,595.00, advising Mr. Barone stated he can do the work required at that price.

Commissioner Randy Laird made a motion to accept the low bid from Mr. Barone for \$17,595.00. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Mr. Clint Sterling, Director of Recreation and Parks/Tourism came forward to first present his recommendation regarding sealed bids for the sale of the Burgess storage facility, grounds and contents. The high bid received was from Mr. Gary Cullen for \$36,000. It was noted however that the Board retains the right to reject the bids submitted, and can chose to list the property for sale with an agent, or hold an auction sale.

Commissioner Charles Laird made a motion to reject all bids received, and to pursue other avenues for the sale of the property. Commissioner Simpkins seconded the motion. Commissioner Willing and Commission Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Next, Mr. Sterling advised the Board of a Program Open Space (POS) General Fund Allocation recently funded in Governor Hogan's FY22 budget. The amount of this allocation for Somerset County has not been announced at this time. Additionally, legislature has also passed a \$85 Million "Park Infrastructure Bill" for counties to design and construct recreational amenities, park facilities. Mr. Sterling also advised that Somerset County has been allocated \$1 Million, with no matching requirement for funding. It was noted however that projects will be required to meet certain parameters, and must be approved through the Board of Public Works; administered through Maryland Department of Natural Resources, similar to POS funding. Mr. Sterling asked the Board to think about the specific needs within their respective districts, and also share any input received from their constituents as the best uses of this funding is determined. Commissioner Randy Laird noted the comment received during a recent past meeting for the need of outside basketball courts in Crisfield. Mr. Sterling left the meeting at this time.

County Engineer John Redden came forward to present his recommendation regarding the bid received for Airport Consulting Services regarding the Crisfield-Somerset County Airport. He

advised that one bid was received from AECOM, reviewed by Mr. Pusey, Dean Bozman and himself, noting their statement of qualifications addressed all of the items in the advertised request. The next step in the process should AECOM be chosen as consultant, is to request they submit their contract, to be reviewed by the county attorney.

Commissioner Randy Laird made a motion to award the Airport Consulting Services to AECOM regarding the W41 Crisfield-Somerset County Airport. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried. Mr. Redden left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Yvette Cross, Emergency Services Director, explained she was here today to present the Flood Mitigation Plan drafted, and adjoining resolution for the Boards consideration and approval. FEMA 2019 grant funding was used in the development of this plan, and the first meetings were held in the summer of 2020. She explained the process in developing the plan which included for formation of a Core Planning Team that included members from Emergency Services, Department of Planning and Zoning, the County Engineer and the City of Crisfield Public Works. A Flood Mitigation Stakeholder Group (FMSG) was then developed, and following review of existing studies, reports and technical information, twenty-seven mitigation actions items were identified with ten ranked as 'high' priority by the FMSG, identified by project description, geographic area, and responsible entity. A benefit cost review was completed for each of the 10 high priority actions. The next step in the process is for the plan to go to MEMA for review, and then to FEMA for final review. The plan will be a part of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, and updated every 5 years. Ms. Cross noted that the Planning and Zoning Office and Mr. Redden were a valuable asset with the development of this plan. She then asked for approval of the adoption of the plan and Resolution.

A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird to adopt the 2021 Flood Mitigation Plan, Somerset County Maryland and Resolution # 1164 (to adopt the 2021 Flood Mitigation Plan). Commissioner Simpkins seconded the motion. Commissioner Willing and Commissioner Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Next, Mr. Gary Pusey, Department of Technical and Community Services, came forward. First, he presented the grant agreement for the Deal Island Shoreline & Marsh Enhancement Project (Crowell Road) for the Boards consideration and approval. He explained that on March 2, 2021, the Board awarded a bid to Unity Landscape Design/Build Inc., for \$1,149,291.39. The grant application, entered into with the Department of Natural Resources, has appropriated funds from

the MD Board of Public Works in the amount of \$1,174,291.39, which allows for a \$25,000 contingency. The County Attorney has reviewed the agreement and found it to be legally sufficient. Upon approval. The contract can be finalized with the contractor, so that work can begin.

Commissioner Willing made a motion to approve the grant agreement as presented, and authorize the President's signature. Commissioner Simpkins seconded the motion. Vice President Charles Laird and Commissioner Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Mr. Pusey presented the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) 2021 Annual Housing Bond Allocation for Somerset County, and their request to transfer Somerset County's allocation to the state. This year's allocation, in the amount of \$988,488.00, will be combined with other county allocations for DHCD to use for housing programs throughout the State, including Somerset County. The recommendation was made to transfer Somerset County's housing bond allocation of \$988,488.00 to the DHCD for use in housing programs.

A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird to transfer Somerset County's 2021 allocation of DHCD housing bond for \$988,488.00. Commissioner Randy Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Mr. Taylor continued the meeting with correspondence and discussion items.

A letter was received from Maryland Department of Health Secretary Dennis R. Schrader advising of the appointment of Ms. Danielle Weber as the Somerset County Health Officer. Mr. Taylor noted that a press release was made yesterday.

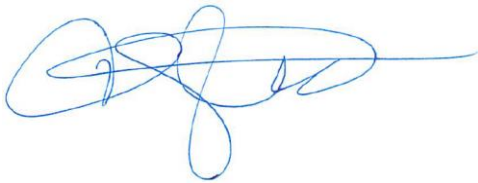
The Annual Somerset County Priority Letter for Recommended Transportation Improvements, was mailed to Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary Gregory Slater. Additionally, the letter approving inter-category budget transfers approved was sent to Dr. Gaddis, and the letters confirming the two Library Board of Trustee Board appointments sent to Mr. Goyda, Library Director.

Lastly, Mr. Taylor noted the vacancy advertised for the Somerset County Sanitary Commission within the Princess Anne Service Area. Commissioner Simpkins made a motion to nominate Mr. Dennis Williams for the vacancy. Commissioner Randy Laird seconded the motion. Vice President Charles Laird and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

With no further business, at 1:24 p.m., the Board was advised of the need to enter into Closed Session. Therefore, upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Willing, the Board entered 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 (8) consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. Commissioner Randy Laird and Vice President Charles Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

The Commissioner and Closed Session meetings were adjourned at 1:58 p.m., upon a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird. Commissioner Eldon Willing and Commissioner Simpkins voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide