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AGENDA
June 8, 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. - Need for Closed Session-** Ms. Kim Widdowson, Mr. Robin Cockey

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 (b) (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

- * 2:00 p.m. - Ms. Sherree Marshall, Commission on Aging
 - Senior Operating Grant FY22
- * 2:05 p.m. - Ms. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor
 - Dental/Vision Plan FY22
 - Amendment to Retiree Plan
 - Rescind Resolution #820
 - LEOPS- Transfer and Participation Agreement

Correspondence:

Sent

Mr. Leslie Pruitt, Supervisor of Assessments re: Official Levy- FY22
Mr. Will Dryden, Tax Collection Supervisor, Tax Office re: Official Levy – FY22
Ms. Olivia Ceccarelli, Acting Assistant Director re: Smith Island/Sustainable Communities 5-Year Renewal
Ms. Kim Smith re: Surplus Property Purchase (2)

Discussion:

- * 1. Boat Slip Sub-Lease Request/Tylerton
- * 2. Surplus Property Purchase Offer (1)
- * 3. Somerset County Health Department MD DHCD Agreement

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.

- * **2:30 p.m. - Closed Session-** Mr. Ralph Taylor, Mr. Charles Cavanaugh, Ms. Yvette Cross, Mr. Josh Shrieves, Mr. Robin Cockey, Ms. Morena Corbin

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; (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition; and (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

- * Denotes Action Item

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR SOMERSET COUNTY
June 8, 2021

At 2:07 p.m., upon a motion made by Commissioner Simpkins, and seconded by Commissioner Willing, President Craig N. Mathies, Sr., called the Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County to reconvene in Regular Session. Also present for the meeting were Vice President Charles Laird, Commissioner Eldon Willing, Commissioner Randy Laird and Commissioner Rex Simpkins. Vice President Charles Laird and Commissioner Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

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

Closed Session Summary Report

On June 8, 2021, from 2:23 p.m. until 2:47 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.

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

Also present were County Administrator Ralph D. Taylor, Executive Aide Lory Ebron, HR Director Morena Corbin, Mr. Josh Shrieves, Director Yvette Cross, Assistant Director Gary Powell, and Director Charles Cavanaugh. Topics discussed: (1) Hiring of Mosquito Control Technician, Motor Equipment Operator I, Transfer Station Attendant (2) Request to move part-time employee to fulltime employee status. Actions taken during closed session: (1) Approval to hire Mosquito Control Technician, Motor Equipment Operator I, Transfer Station Attendant (2) Approval to move employee from part-time to fulltime employee status.

Minutes from the Commissioner and Closed Session meetings held on May 25, 2021 and the Special and Closed Session meetings held on June 1, 2021 were approved as presented upon a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins.

Commissioner Randy Laird and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Ms. Sherree Marshall, Director, Commission on Aging came forward at this time to present the FY22 Senior Operating Grant in the amount of \$38,120 for the Boards approval, and requesting approval for the President's signature.

A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to approve the President's signature on the FY22 Senior Operating Grant as requested. Commissioner Willing and Commissioner Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Next, Ms. Sharon Muir, Internal Auditor, came forward to present the following for approval:

Integra Dental & Vision Plans – FY22 Increase

Ms. Muir advised that the County offers Dental and Vision Insurance Plans through Integra Administrative Group to eligible employees, for which each employee pays the full cost. For FY22, the Dental and Vision Plans will incur minimal increases as follows:

Dental Plan- increases from .28 cents per month up to \$6.86 per month depending on the plan type and individual versus dependent plans

Vision Plan- increases from .37 cents per month to \$1.84 per month depending on whether individual or dependent plan

Ms. Muir then requested the Board's approval and the President's signature for the Integra Dental and Vision Plan increases for FY22.

Commissioner Simpkins made a motion to approve the Integra Dental and Vision Plan increases for FY22, and authorize President Mathies to sign the document presented. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Randy Laird and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Medicare Supplemental Insurance Plan through Integra Administrative Group

Next, Ms. Muir explained that the County provides a Medicare Supplemental Insurance Plan through Integra Administrative Group for Retirees aged 65+. The County also participated in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Retiree Drug Subsidy Program (RDS), which reimburses Plan Sponsors for a portion of their Qualifying Covered Retirees' cost for prescription drugs. Participation in the RDS Program requires that the County have an actuarial review with each plan renewal year. Per the actuarial review, the County must increase the annual

benefit maximum for the Retiree Plan's prescription drug benefits from \$15,000 (current) to \$20,000 for FY22. Ms. Muir requested the Boards approval for Amendment No. 4 to the County's Retiree Health Plan (Medicare Supplemental Plan) which will increase the individual annual plan year maximum prescription benefit for FY22 to \$20,000.

Commissioner Randy Laird made a motion to approve Amendment No. 4 to the County's Retiree Plan as presented to increase the maximum benefit for FY22 to \$20,000. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Resolution No. 820

Ms. Muir next explained that on January 28, 2003, Resolution No. 820 was adopted by the Board, and allowed for Hazardous Duty Pay in addition to the Certified Deputies annual grade and step compensation per the authorized pay scale each year. During the FY19 budgetary process, the Board approved adding the Hazardous Duty Pay to the Sheriff's Office and Detention Center pay scales, eliminating the classification of additional pay and allowing the compounding effect within each of the pay scales. As a preliminary matter of recordkeeping, Ms. Muir requested Board approval to rescind Resolution No. 820 since it is no longer applicable. This will also pave the way for a correction of language when the current Employee Handbook of Governing Rules and Regulations is revised and updated.

Vice President Charles Laird made a motion to rescind Resolution No. 820. Commissioner Simpkins seconded the motion. Commissioner Willing and Commissioner Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Transfer and Participation Agreement – EPS to LEOPS

Lastly, Ms. Muir presented the Transfer and Participation Agreement – EPS to LEOPS, explaining that on May 18, 2021, the Board adopted Resolution No. 1165, approving participation by eligible law enforcement officers employed by the Somerset County Sheriff's Office to withdraw from the Employees Pension System (EPS) to the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System (LEOPS). In consideration of mutual covenants and promises contained in the Transfer and Participation Agreement -EPS to LEOPS, the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System and Somerset County agree to the withdrawal from EPS and transfer to LEOPS for eligible officers of the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. Ms. Muir requested Board approval and signature to be effective July 1, 2021.

A motion was made by Vice President Charles Laird to approve the Transfer and Participation Agreement – EPS to LEOPS authorize signatures. Commissioner Willing seconded the motion. Commissioner Randy Laird and Commissioner Simpkins voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Mr. Taylor continued with correspondence and discussion items.

Letters were sent to Mr. Leslie Pruitt, Supervisor of Assessments and Mr. Willis Dryden, Tax Collection Supervisor advising of the Official Levy for Fiscal Year 2022. Additionally, letters were sent to Mr. Olivia Ceccarelli, Acting Assistant Director regarding Smith Island/Sustainable Communities 5-year renewal, and a letter to Ms. Kim Smith advising of the approval for the purchase of two surplus properties.

Mr. Taylor presented a request received from Mr. Duke Marshall to sublease Slip #2 at Tylerton Harbor to Mr. H. Turney McKnight.

Commissioner Randy Laird made a motion to approve the sublease request from Mr. Marshall. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Willing and Commissioner Simpkins voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Mr. Taylor presented a surplus property offer received from Mr. Billy Hinman to purchase Account 12-009984 (Walter Jones Rd) for \$896.00. The 10% non-refundable deposit was made.

Commissioner Randy Laird made a motion to approve the sale of Account 12-009984 to Mr. Billy Hinman for \$896.00. Vice President Charles Laird seconded the motion. Commissioner Willing and Commissioner Simpkins voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Lastly, Mr. Taylor requested the Boards formal approval for the Approval of Agreement between Somerset County Commissioners Office and the Somerset County Health Department. The proposed agreement would establish the Somerset County Health Department as the fiscal lead in Somerset County for only grants awarded to the Lower Shore Continuum of Care through the Department of Housing and Community Development and in addition will provide the County Health Department with a fiscally responsible opportunity to further health care reform efforts in Maryland by promoting increased access to affordable health care services for homeless Maryland residents.

A motion was made by Commissioner Simpkins and seconded by Commissioner Willing to approve the Approval of Agreement between Somerset County Commissioners Office and the Somerset County Health Department. Vice President Charles Laird and Commissioner Randy Laird voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

With no further business, at 2:23 p.m., the Board was advised of the need to enter into Closed Session. Therefore, upon a motion made by Vice President Charles Laird and seconded by Commissioner Randy Laird, 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. Commissioner Simpkins and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

The Commissioner and Closed Session meetings were adjourned at 5:13 p.m., upon a motion made by Commissioner Randy Laird and seconded by Commissioner Simpkins. Vice President Charles Laird and Commissioner Willing voted in favor; therefore, the motion carried.

Approved by:



Board of County Commissioners
For Somerset County

Respectfully Submitted:



Lory E. Ebron
Executive Aide