

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2007
6:30 P.M.**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, August 7, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, and Commissioners Frankie Mathis, Mike Jones, Sherry Miley and Robert Setters. Commissioner Rigdon was out due to illness.

Public Comments:

Joe Courson addressed the Board on tax equalization stating prior to the meeting the County Manager informed him of the status of the discussions that have taken place at this point and very much appreciates him keeping him informed. He stated he was delighted to know that the dialogue has started and the County Manager will keep him informed.

Appointments:

Brian Tankersly, County Extension Agent addressed the Board to introduce a new employee and explain her position. Andrea Scarrow, who is bilingual, has been brought on Board through a grant for financial education initiatives for Tift and Colquitt Counties. This program is geared to reach to Latino population. She will be spending time in both Tift and Colquitt Counties but her office is located at the Extension Office here.

Items discussed by the Commission for action on August 13, 2007:

- A. **Change wording in a Resolution for EMS Department:** Craig Grace, EMS Director explained to the Board that a Resolution was passed in 1995 that all ambulances would be staffed and equipped to provide Advanced Life Support which means each ambulance must have at least one paramedic on board. The Rules and Regulations have changed recently that defines each ambulance can be staffed with EMT-Intermediate. This would allow ambulances to operate without Advanced Cardiac Life Support capabilities. With the revision to the wording of the Resolution this would mean that Tift County would operate with a paramedic on each ambulance to provide Cardiac Life Support.
- B. **Authorize Chairman to endorse the E911 Motorola Equipment/Maintenance Annual Contract:** Scott Bowers, E911 Director, explained this is the annual maintenance renewal contract. It guarantees the repair or replacement of any equipment serviced by Motorola that fails to perform. Although the contract does not cover acts of Mother Nature; it does cover labor for a technician to be called out for repairs.
- C. **Authorize Chairman to endorse Verification Form to be eligible to receive 7.5% discount on Workers' Compensation Premium:** The County Clerk advised that Tift County meets the required criteria to be eligible to receive this discount.
- D. **Name Change Only on Beer License for Dixie Station on South Main Street:** The County Clerk explained that the partnership of this convenient store is being dissolved and the partner who holds the license is leaving. The beer license needs to be changed to the current sole owner. The Sheriff has approved.
- E. **Beer Application on A. Singh for a Minute Market at 3726 Hwy 82 West:** To do not having all information collected prior to the meeting, the County Clerk asked the Board to remove this item from the Agenda until all information has been gathered. The Board agreed to remove it from the Agenda.
- F. **Appointment to Tift County Hospital Authority by ballot:** The County Clerk will prepare ballots of the submitted names for the Regular Meeting for the Board to vote and make this appointment. The three names submitted for consideration from the Hospital Authority Board are Joel M. Johnson, Robert G. Anderson and David McEachin.
- G. **Approval to increase Tift County's Corporate Credit Limit:** The Finance Director asked that the Board consider raising the credit limit from \$100,000 to \$200,000. The purpose of this is that all Departments now use the County credit card to do the majority of their purchases and each month some we come very close to the credit line and because of the limit, she is unable to increase any department's amount of credit to carry them sometimes from month to month. It mostly affects the Sheriff's Department.

H. Approval of a 3 Year vehicle lease under State Contract for the Sheriff

Department: Jason Jones with the Sheriff's Department advised the Board that this is for one Ford Expedition that will be assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division as was approved in the budget.

I. Approval of a 3 Year vehicle lease under State contract for seven (7) 2008 Dodge

Enforcer pursuit vehicles for the Sheriff's Department: Jason Jones with the Sheriff's Department advised the Board that this is for seven 2008 Dodge Enforcer pursuit vehicles that will be assigned to the Patrol Division and was approved in the budget.

J. Approval of 3 Year vehicle lease under State contract for four (4) 2008 Dodge

Enforcer pursuit vehicles for the Sheriff's Department: Jason Jones with the Sheriff's Department advised the Board that these vehicles will be assigned to the Jail Unit of the Sheriff's Department and was approved in the budget. Once all the new vehicles have been purchased and delivered, the Sheriff's Department will be turning over the Ford Crown Vic vehicles that will be replaced by these as surplus units for the Board to dispense of as they see fit.

K. Approval of the Inmate Services Agreement with Tift Regional Medical Center:

Jason Jones with the Sheriff's Department explained the Inmate Services Agreement with Tift Regional Medical Center advising that it had been re-negotiated to receive a 45% discount for services for inmate care.

L. Approval to allow Littlefield Construction to pave already approved roads in conjunction with the paving of Old Brookfield Road:

Jason Jordan, Projects Manager reported that previously the Board has already approved the paving of Wilson Underwood, Grimsley, Warner, Authur, Flonnie and Evie Roads. Littlefield Construction Company is presently paving Old Brookfield and all of these roads come off of Old Brookfield and he is asking the Board to allow Littlefield to pave these roads while they are already on site. They have submitted a bid for each road that is under \$20,000 for each road.

M. Authorize Chairman to endorse the DOT Contract for the paving of Bowen Road:

The County has received DOT funding for the base and paving of Bowen Road.

N. Authorize Chairman to endorse the DOT Agreement on Transportation

Improvements on Old Ocilla Road: Jason Jordan, Projects Manager advised that this Agreement for the improvements on Old Ocilla Road will be funded by the Department of Transportation but they require the County to be responsible for right of way acquisition and any moving of utilities.

O. Approval to hire Darrell Osborne as a right of way consultant for Salem Church Road Bridge Project to be completed with DOT funds:

Jason Jordan, Projects Manager explained that this work is very similar to the project just discussed for Old Ocilla Road and that the Agreement was signed by a previous Chairman. The same stipulations are in this Agreement as in the Old Ocilla Agreement. There are strict guidelines to follow when state and federal dollars are being expended on these projects. Staff is requesting approval from the Board to hire Southern Acquisitions, LLC (Darrell Osborne) to handle the acquisition of right of way.

P. Authorize Chairman to endorse the Contract for Prison Work Detail with the Georgia Board of Corrections:

The County Manager reminded the Board of the previous discuss for this work detail. Staff has a van in our inventory that will be used for the transportation of the crew supplied from the State. The contract will include 12 inmates and 1 detention officer. The contract amount is \$37,500 which covers the costs of the detention office and the County will utilize the labor crew in several areas that includes liter pick up on County Roads.

Q. Explanation of the Tifton/Tift County Airport Proposed Runway Extension: Staff has put together the cost of doing the "In-Kind" work for the Airport's proposed runway extension which will be reimbursed to the county by the Airport Authority. The Board needs to approve or deny entering into this Joint Agreement.

R. Request for the Naming of the recently renovated Juvenile Court Facility: The County Manager advised that the County has received a request from Juvenile Court Judge Holli Martin to rename the newly renovated Juvenile Court Building in memory of Michael Cantleberry and is supported by Superior Court Judge McCorvey by a letter attached for your reference. The Board needs to approve or deny this request.

The Commissioners agreed to put items A, B, C, D, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, and R on the Consent Agenda.

County Managers Items:

- Advised the Board of a letter from Georgia Emergency Management Agency informing of a check received in the amount of \$29,337.54 for costs associated with the installation of the Reverse 911 System as a part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Advised of the Staff recommendation on Beaver Control. Staff recommends that Beaver Control cost be tracked for one year to see the actual cost and the full extent of the problem we may have in Tift County
- Gave an updated Road Projects List with the status of roads being worked on at present
- Advised the Board of the scheduled Public Meeting on the Tifton/Tift County Transportation Study. The next meeting is set for August 28th from 5 to 7 PM in the Courtroom

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Jones referred to a meeting that was held at the Chamber moving toward getting all permits in one place and asked that we keep that on the front burner. He also mentioned buffer clauses in relation to the Zoning Ordinance and wanted to make sure that Tift County's Ordinance references buffers so that we are covered.

Commissioner Miley gave compliments to the Road Department for checking on situations that she calls about and for handling them in a very timely manner.

Commissioner Mathis gave compliments to Zoning and Code Enforcement Departments for the work being done in Districts 1 and 2 with the dilapidated houses. Four houses have come down just recently and the work and dedication is very much appreciated. He also stated that when the SDCC Meeting between the City and the County get started back, he would like to attend a meeting.

Chairman Thompson stated that he is very proud to see the County get the contract in place for with the Department of Corrections to get the liter in the County picked up.

Executive Session: Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis to go into Executive Session under OCGA 50-14-3[6], Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Setters to close Executive Session, seconded by, Commissioner Miley. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

_____absent_____
Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

ATTTEST: _____
County Clerk

REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2007
6:30 P.M.

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, August 13, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Commissioners Sherry Miley, Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon, C. Michael Jones and Robert Setters.

Chairman Thompson called to order the Regular Business Meeting of the Tift County Board of Commissioners at 6:30 PM.

Chairman Thompson asked Commissioner Frankie Mathis to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

All actions taken in this meeting are results of commissioners' votes with the Chairman not voting except in the case of a tie which will be stipulated as such.

Public Comments: None

The County Manager read a letter received from the Governor's Office notifying Tift County has been selected to receive a commitment of Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funds totaling \$386,536. The funds are reserved for the multi infrastructure improvements proposed for the community which includes Hill Avenue, Scott Circle and Wilton Avenue.

Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis approving the minutes of the July 2, 2007 Workshop Session, July 9, 2007 Regular Session; July 16, 2007 Called Session; July 24, 2007 Called Session, seconded by Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings: None

Consent Agenda:

- A. Motion to change ALS Resolution to read Advance Cardiac Life Support
- B. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the E911 Motorola Equipment/Maintenance Annual Contract in the amount of \$55,324
- C. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse Verification Form to be eligible to receive 7.5% discount on Workers' Compensation Premium
- D. Motion authorizing the County Clerk to issue a Name Change Only Beer License for Dixie Station located on South Main
- G. Motion approving the increase in Tift County's corporate Credit Line from \$100,000 to \$200,000
- H. Motion authorizing the Chairman to sign a 3 Year Lease under State Contract for the purchase of one Ford Expedition Vehicle for the Criminal Investigation Division of the Sheriff's Department
- I. Motion authorizing the Chairman to sign a 3 Year Lease under State contract for the purchase of seven 2008 Dodge Enforcer pursuit vehicles for the Patrol Division of the Sheriff's Department
- J. Motion authorizing the Chairman to sign a 3 Year Lease under State Contract for the purchase of four Dodge Enforcer pursuit vehicles for the Jail Unity of the Sheriff's Department
- K. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the Inmate Services Agreement between Tift County and Tift Regional Medical Center for a 45% discount for services
- L. Motion approving Littlefield Construction Company to pave six previously approved roads in the amounts indicated on the submitted proposal which has been made a part of these minutes marked EXHIBIT 'A'
- M. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the DOT Contract for the base and paving of Bowen Road
- N. Motion authorizing the chairman to endorse the DOT Framework Agreement on Transportation Improvements on Old Ocilla road

- O. Motion approving the hiring of Southern Acquisitions, L.L. C. (Darrel Osborne) as a right of way consultant for the Salem Church Road Bridge Project to be completed with DOT funding
- P. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the Contract for Prison Work Detail with the Georgia Board of Corrections in the amount of \$37,500
- Q. Motion to enter into a Joint Agreement with the Airport Authority for in kind services for the proposed Runway Extension
- R. Motion approving the naming of the recently renovated Juvenile Court Building in memory of Michael Cantlebury

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Hester to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of items A, B, C, D, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, and R seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda:

F. Appointment to Tift County Hospital Authority: The County Attorney handed out ballots for the Board to vote for the appointment to the Hospital Authority Board as is the general practice of the Commissioners. The ballot included the three names that were submitted from the Hospital Authority which were: Joel M. Johnson, Robert G. Anderson and David McEachin. The ballots were reviewed by the County Clerk, County Manager and County Attorney and the County Clerk advised that the Board had selected Joel M. Johnson to the Tift County Hospital Authority with his term effective October 1, 2007.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis for the County Clerk to destroy the ballots, seconded by Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Comments:

- Advised the Board that we have received a letter from the State approving the Tift County Tax Digest

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Miley asked the County Manager the procedure for citizens to get street lights. She has had a group of citizens on 40th street inquire. The county Manager will get the required petition to get signed by the citizens.

Commissioner Rigdon reminded the Board that in the next month it is time to review and determine who will be the liaison to the Hospital Authority Board. He would also like to see the SDCC meetings get started up again and would like for staff to get with the City and set up a date.

Commissioner Mathis thanked the entire community Development Staff for their hard work on the preparation of the CDBG Grant and will be glad to inform the citizens in his District that we have received the grant and infrastructure upgrades will resume on those streets. He advised the Board that next month an Antique Show will be held at the Conference Center. The Library Foundation will be sponsoring this and all funds raised will be used for the inventory for the new renovated library. Please purchase your tickets from him! It will be good for the Commissioners to support this event. They are hoping to raise \$200,000.

Vice Chairman Hester reported that he was disturbed today to learn that we are not keeping the grass cut around the ditch at Pecan Village. A young boy was almost bitten by a snake in that area today. He inquired about the street light on Hale Avenue and was advised that it has been turned in to Colquitt EMC. He would like to see the railroad track crossing on South Central get some attention. It has become a rough crossing. The Road Department Staff will contact the railroad folks. He address the roads in the Lake Sa-Hi area, specifically T.C. Gordon Road stating that is still problems getting right of way deeds signed. He will not force people to sign the deeds; this is also the case on the unpaved portion of West Golden Road. He commended the Sheriff's Department and stated they need everything they ask for in order to protect the citizens of Tift County. He recognized two former Commissioners, Charlotte Bedell and Moody Huggins who were in the audience.

Commissioner Jones reminded staff of his previous request to check into longer hours for the recycling site on Whiddon Mill Road.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Commissioner Jones to go into Executive Session for Legal, Personnel and Land Acquisition, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Setters to close Executive Session, seconded by Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Hester, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

Commissioner Fred W. (Buck) Rigdon, Dist 5

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

ATTEST:

County Clerk