

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY , SEPTEMBER 5, 2006
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, September 5, 2006, 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 Charlotte Bedell, Commissioners John Huggins, Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon and Hugh Webb. Commissioner Hester was absent due to illness.

Public Hearings:

TC-TA-0601: Zoning Text Amendment – Bed & Breakfast: The County Manager and Carl Fortson explained the proposed Text Amendment and stated it has been approved by the Planning and Zoning Board for a maximum of five rooms. The Public Hearing is scheduled for the Regular Meeting on Monday.

Items discussed by the Commission for action on September 11, 2006:

- B. Special Events Ordinance:** The County Manager explained that the required changes have been made to this Ordinance as discussed by him and Vice Chairman Bedell.
- C. Keep Tift Beautiful By Law Changes:** Vice Chairman Bedell has reviewed the by law changes with Bert Crowe and will discuss with him further prior to Monday meeting.
- D. Library Budget Request:** This has been discussed among the Board, however, prior to the meeting Monday night there needs to be some further discussion with the Library Board. Commissioners Rigdon, Mathis and the County Manager will follow up on this.
- E. Georgia Indigent Defense Contract:** The Agreement will be reviewed by the Board prior to Monday night. It now reads Tift County will pay our share and all other counties in the circuit will pay their share respectively.
- F. Safety Discount Verification Form to receive 7.5% discount on Workers' Comp Premium Insurance:** The County Clerk advised that Tift County meets all the required criteria to be eligible for the 7.5% discount on premiums.
- G. Appoint Official Voting Delegate for Fall Policy Conference:** The Board agreed to appoint Commissioner Donnie Hester as the voting delegate at ACCG Fall Policy Conference
- H. Appointment to Elections Board – Patricia Robinson's term expired:** The Board will need to consider reappointment of Ms. Robinson to this Board as her term has expired. Ms. Robinson has expressed a desire to continue serving.
- I. Change date for the November Workshop Session:** The November Workshop Session falls on Election Day. The Board will need to consider changing the date of this meeting to Monday, November 6, 2006.
- J. Approve Classification & Pay Plan Study Agreement:** The County Manager reported that our policy requires periodical to review of our salary plan and job classification descriptions. This is a joint effort with the City to have the Carl Vinson Institute of Government do this study. It is a budgeted item.
- K. Approve Jeff Crosby Subdivision consisting of Lots on Old Brookfield Road:** Jeff Crosby has submitted a final plat of a subdivision on Old Brookfield Road which required administrative approval. The Board asked prior to action on Monday night, that Mr. Fortson get with Mr. Crosby to give the necessary right of way for future paving of roads.
- L. Paving bids on Old Brookfield Road:** Watkins and Associates solicited and opened bids for the paving of Old Brookfield Road. His recommendation is to accept the low bid from Littlefield Construction Company.
- M. Declare Old Brookfield Fire Station as surplus property:** Since the new Brookfield Fire Station is in operation, Commissioner Huggins suggested the old property be declared surplus and advertised for sale.
- N. Tractor and Mower Bids for the Road Department:** Richard Burr, Road Superintendent solicited bids for a tractor with mower attachment and bids were opened

September 5, 2006. His recommendation is to accept low bid from Stafford. This is a budgeted item.

O. Franchise Agreement for Plant Telenet: This agreement is waiting final approval from the attorney. The Board expressed they would like to see the agreement in its final form.

P. Road Committee recommendation on Wilson-Underwood Road & other road discussions: Vice Chairman Bedell reported that Wilson-Underwood Road paving had not been approved by the Board and that road is one that will be paved while paving Old Brookfield and should be approved for the record. This Road will connect Old Brookfield to Highway 82. Vice Chairman Bedell advised the Board that the Road Committee is discussing Mixon Abbott Road and the unpaved portion of East Golden Road. Darrell Wiggins and his staff are helping us to acquire the remainder of the right of way deeds on East Golden. An extension of Oakridge Church Road will be brought before the Road committee with a recommendation from Roger Dill once he assesses the road.

The Commissioners agreed to place items F,G,H,I,J,L,M,N, & P on the Consent Agenda for the Regular Meeting on September 11, 2006.

County Managers Items:

Advised of the Records Retention Study that is a joint SPLOST III project with the City
Advised that D.L. Lastinger will be retiring from the Tift County Recreation Department at the end of this month

Reminded the Board of the Portrait Dedication of Henry Banks Allen on September 15th at 11 AM

Advised that two proposals for a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Tifton and Tift County have been received. Interviews will be conducted on Friday and Monday with these firms and will be bringing a recommendation to the Board for approval.

Reminded the Board of the Omega Pepper Festival and Parade on Saturday

Updated the Board on the 5% Fine Money stating staff has met with the District Attorney and all accounts will be consolidated. We have received an additional request from the PattiCake House for \$10,000 that would come from the 5% money that is being consolidated. The VOCA (Victims of Criminal Acts) Grant will require a 25% match, operated through the District Attorney's office which will amount to about \$30,000 to come from the same fund but will require a budget amendment. The Board agreed to put this as an addition to the Regular Agenda for the Monday night meeting.

Commissioner Comments:

Vice Chairman Bedell discussed the Draft Proposal for the Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The EMAG Group has worked on this program for several months prioritizing goals and objectives. Land use was a top priority and the South GA Regional Development Center (RDC) has worked with this group on the goals and is proposing to outline this CEMP for Tifton and Tift County by looking at our land use, environmental resources and our beautification for a cost estimate of \$27,000. It is anticipated that through the Signature Community designation, a grant will be received to cover this cost. Vice Chairman Bedell would like for the Board to consider this item as an addition to the Regular Meeting on Monday night to take action supporting the CEMP.

Commissioner Huggins advised the Board that he is working on the Right-of-Way deeds on Bowen Road and Grimsley Road.

Public Comments:

Donald Adcock addressed the Board with some questions concerning the land use plan for Tifton and Tift County.

Melissa Chevers addressed the Board concerning reports of loud music and noise this past weekend at Harriette's on M L K and Southern Avenue.

Executive Session: Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to go into Executive Session under OCGA 50-14-3(6); OCGA 50-14-3(4); and OCGA 50-14-2(1) seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Huggins to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

Vice Chairman Charlotte W. Bedell, Dist 6

absent
Commissioner Donnie Hester, Dist 1

Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

Commissioner Hugh Webb, Dist 3

Commissioner John M. Huggins, Dist 4

Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

ATTEST:

County Clerk

**REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2006
6:30 P.M.**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, September 11, 2006, 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 Charlotte Bedell, Commissioners John Huggins, Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon and Hugh Webb. Commissioner Webb was absent due to another conflict.

Chairman Thompson asked Reverend Ryan Carnes of Omega Church of God 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.

Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis approving the minutes of the August 7, 2006 Workshop Session and the August 14, 2006 Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

Additions to the Agenda:

Consideration of budget amendment to provide \$38,000 for VOCA grant match and \$10,000 additional funding for Ruth's cottage funded from 5% money [Q]

Authorize Chairman to execute contract with RDC for Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) assessment [R]

Approve Resolution honoring Coach Arthur Mott nominated for the Georgia High School Football Hall of Fame [S]

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to add these three items to the Regular Agenda under letters Q, R, and S, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings:

TC-TA-0601: Zoning Text Amendment – Bed & Breakfast: The County Manager and Carl Fortson explained the proposed Text Amendment and stated it has been approved by the Planning and Zoning Board for a maximum of five rooms.

Chairman Thompson opened the public hearing. There were no comments. Chairman Thompson closed the public hearing.

Motion to approve TC-TA-0601, Zoning Text Amendment on Bed and Breakfast facility in Tift County for a maximum of five rooms was made by Vice Chairman Bedell, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- F. Authorize Chairman to endorse Safety Discount Verification Form to receive 7.5% discount on Workers' Compensation Insurance.**
- G. Appoint Commissioner Donnie Hester as the Official Voting Delegate for ACCG Fall Policy Conference**
- H. Re-appoint Patricia Robinson for another term to the Elections Board**
- I. Change the November Workshop Session meeting to Monday, November 6, 2006**
- J. Authorize the County Manager to execute Classification & Pay Plan Study Agreement**
- L. Award bid for paving Old Brookfield Road to Littlefield Construction Company in the amount of \$938,006.74**
- M. Authorize the County Clerk to advertise Old Brookfield Fire Station as surplus property**

- N. **Award bid for Tractor and Mower to Stafford in the amount of \$72,800 for the Road Department**
- P. **Approve the paving of Wilson-Underwood Road**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda:

- B. **Special Events Ordinance:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to adopt the Special Events Ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Keep Tift Beautiful By Law Changes:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to table until the October meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. **Library Budget Request:** Motion was made Commissioner Rigdon to table until the October Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. **Georgia Indigent Defense Contract:** Motion to table until the October meeting was made by Commissioner Rigdon, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously.
- K. **Approve Jeff Crosby Subdivision consisting of 6 Lots on Old Brookfield Road:** Motion to approve the Final Plat for Jeff Crosby Subdivision was made by Commissioner Huggins, second by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.
- O. **Franchise Agreement for Plant Telenet:** Motion to approve the Franchise Agreement for Plant Telenet was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Vice Chairman Bedell. Voting for the motion were Commissioners Huggins, Bedell and Rigdon. Commissioner Hester voted against the motion and Commissioner Mathis abstained. There were not enough votes to carry the motion in the absence of Commissioner Webb. **NO ACTION ON THIS ITEM.** Vice Chairman Bedell made a motion to reconsider this item at the October meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.
- Q. **Consideration of budget amendment to provide \$38,000 for VOCA Grant Match and \$10,000 additional funding for Ruth's Cottage funded from 5% monies:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to approve the required budget amendment to provide for these to expenditures, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.
- R. **Authorize the Chairman to execute contract with RDC for Comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) assessment:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to authorize the execution of this contract, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.
- S. **Approval of Resolution honoring Coach Arthur Mott nominated for the Georgia High School Football Hall of Fame:** Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to approve the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

County Managers Items:

Reported that historically Tift County has assisted with the La Fiesta Pueblo Festival and we have received that request again for furnishing bleachers and set up. With the county Resources Policy now in place we can do this and waive the fee if the Board so chooses. **Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis to execute the agreement and waive the fee, seconded by Vice Chairman Bedell. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Huggins inquired about a job fair through the Department of Labor to be held at the Recreation Department. The fee is waived because historically the County has approved the use of the building in connection with the Chamber of Commerce. The County Manager recommends that a policy be considered by the Board to give staff some direction on whom we allow to use what county buildings and for what reason and if fees should or should not be used. Commissioner Huggins feels the RDC Building/Conference Center in Tift County should be utilized for these types of things. Vice Chairman Bedell stated that jobs are important to the County and because often times the State has very limited funding for facility rentals, it is important that we cooperate with agencies such as the Department of Labor.

The Board was made aware of the 2007 LARP List that will be sent in to the Department of Transportation. The LARP List is made a part of these minutes by Exhibit "A".

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Huggins asked the County Manager to check on Mosquito Control and report back to the Board. He reported that he is working on the amended right of way deeds on Bowen Road and he should have those next week. He asked about the status of the permit on a previously discussed drainage area near the Brownlee property and was advised the permit has not been obtained at this point.

Commissioner Hester apologized for missing the previous meeting due to illness. He addressed the recent striping of streets stating that he believes 17th Street needs to be striped all the way. He advised that he attended the water meeting and hopes by the end of this year to have answers he will be satisfied with, if not he will go further on dealing with water rates.

Vice Chairman Bedell addressed mosquito control stating it is very important that we concentrate on the breeding areas. She asked Mr. Park if any consideration had been given to using larvicides and Mr. Park stated he would follow up. She advised that she and Mr. Park have been appointed to the Resolutions Committee for the Association of County Commissioners. Mr. Park is serving on General Government and she is serving on Health and Human Services. She directed a question to the Zoning Department on a recent request she had made concerning the chart of attendance of the Zoning Board and would like to know if this is being done and if we are monitoring this. She advised of the Heart Walk to be held on November 9, 2006, at the 8th Street Track and would like to know if they can have use of some tables and chairs from the Recreation Department. Commissioners agreed.

Public Comments:

Buddy Coarsey addressed the Board concerning the property given by him and his mother for the old Brookfield Fire Station. He stated that the station should be fenced. His family sold the original property to the County for \$1,500 for the old station and it was supposed to go back to the owner when a fire station no longer operated there according to Mr. Coarsey. They would like for this property to be reverted to the family so they can give the property to the Methodist Church of Brookfield. He stated he thinks the Board should consider selling surplus property on the Courthouse steps rather than sealed bid process.

Elton L. Copeland of 15 Dodson Drive addressed the Board about the recently adopted Sign Ordinance and how are the rules and regulations of the Ordinance going to be policed. He inquired about Standard Rules and Regulations in the Zoning Department for house building. He was advised there are Standards and Rules in place and they are enforced. He then asked if there was a policy of Rules and Regulations in place concerning the disposal of surplus property. He believes it should be a public auction, not sealed bid. Commissioner Hester asked Mr. Copeland to simply address the Board, not ask questions of the Board.

Chairman Thompson introduced Jason Jordan, who has been recently hired as Project Manager for Tift County.

Angie Thompson from the Tifton Gazette introduced her new co-worker, Jana Cone and stated she will be covering some of the Commissioners meetings.

Executive Session: Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to go into Executive Session under OCGA 50-14-3(6) seconded by Vice Chairman Bedell. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to close Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Rigdon, seconded by Commissioner Mathis.
Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

Vice Chairman Charlotte W. Bedell, Dist 6

Commissioner Donnie Hester, Dist 1

Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

_____absent_____
Commissioner Hugh Webb, Dist 3

Commissioner John M. Huggins, Dist 4

Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

ATTEST:

County Clerk

**CALLED EXECUTIVE SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2006
5:15 P.M.**

The Special Called Executive Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, September 18, 2006, at 5:15 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Charlotte Bedell, Commissioners Donnie Hester, John Huggins, Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon and Hugh Webb.

Chairman Thompson advised that this Special Called Executive Session was being held under OCGA 50-14-3[6].

Motion was made by Commissioner Huggins to close Executive Session and go into Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Webb. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board agreed to vote on the hiring of the County Attorney by secret ballot. County Manager Bill Park handed out the ballots. No decision was made from the vote, therefore no action was taken by the Board.

Motion was made by vice Chairman Bedell authorizing the County Manager to destroy the ballots, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

Vice Chairman Charlotte W. Bedell, Dist 6

Commissioner Donnie Hester, Dist 1

Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

Commissioner Hugh Webb, Dist 3

Commissioner John M. Huggins, Dist 4

Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

ATTEST:

County Manager