**TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Courtroom A**

**May 17, 2016 5:30 PM**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**PRESENT: BLAKE TILLERY, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, HOWARD KAUFOLD, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Tillery called the May meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.

**Invocation:** Commissioner Cason gave the invocation.

**Approve Agenda:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioners Nobles to approve the Minutes of April 19, 2016 Regular Board Meeting as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Participation:** None

**Development Authority** Development Authority report was given by Bill Mitchell. Show Case in Toombs **Reports:** and Montgomery was a record breaking year and we appreciate everyone attending. The Leadership Toombs-Montgomery deadline for nominations was May 16th, 2016. The applications are in process of being mailed out. The Toombs Montgomery Youth Leadership – All school applications have been picked up and the next step is to give them to the selection committee in June. The next Toombs County Development Authority meeting will be May 19th at noon at the

Chamber. There will be a grand re-opening and Open House Event at Glow Salon, located at 654 NW Broad St. Lyons, GA on May 25th. Ribbon Cutting will begin at 4:00 PM; Open House event to follow until 6:00 PM. The Glow Salon is under new owner and management. Crossfit Crazy Strong located at 603 Northwest Main Street, Vidalia will have a Ribbon Cutting on June 9th at 4:30 PM. The Development Authority met with US Pet two weeks ago and did a tour. It was encouraging to see the employees that were being hired back and they are talking about expanding in Toombs County. US Energy Science has submitted a loan application. As most of you know the Chamber Building is a (28) twenty eight year old building and we are now doing renovation to our Chamber building.

**Department Reports:**  Captain William Mann from the EMS department stated that the service had 681 calls for the month of April and had 16,894 miles that was driven in April. May 26th EMS will have their luncheon at Chatters Restaurant to celebrate EMS Week. All the County Commissioners are invited. Commissioner Nobles asked what the reasons were for the higher volume of calls. There has been a lot of auto accidents and during this time of the season, there were more outside activities going on. Some have heat exhaustion, transfers are up and sometime we have to give those transfers away because we cannot handle them. We are stilling trying to get the house call program started because we feel that the program is worthy and justified. Commissioner Nobles asked if the EMS Service tried to even out the miles that were being placed on the ambulances. Captain Mann responded yes, we rotated our call volume as far as transfer goes, that is where most of the miles comes from. Commissioner Dixon asked if the new ambulance was working out okay. Captain Mann replied that it was a very good ambulance equipped with all-vehicle touch screens and LED lights, it is a jam-up truck and we have not had any problems with it. Manager Jones added that we will be getting new specs on a new ambulance in the next couple of months. The safety committee will look at it then we will bring a recommendation before the board.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones states that in the packet there is a copy of the State of Georgia - **Retention Schedule** Public Safety retention schedule. We would like for the board to adopt this

**for EMS Ambulance** retention schedule for the Ambulance trip reports; which is a retention schedule

**Trip Reports:** for five years for the trip reports. If the Board approves we can move forward in destroying old records that are over five years.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the retention schedule for five years for the Ambulance trip reports. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated that Chairman Tillery has the Proclamation for EMS

**Proclamation of EMS** week, so he turned this consideration over to Chairman Tillery. Chairman Tillery

**Week:** read the Proclamation in the meeting. Now that this Proclamation has been read, may I get a motion to approve this Proclamation?

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the EMS Proclamation as read. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Request** Manager Jones stated that the Development Authority has asked for Building

**For Building Repair Funds** Repair funds in the amount of $ 20,000. to help with the renovation. This will be

**for Development Authority:** paid out of the General Funds if the Board approves.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to pay $20,000. toward the renovations being done at the Development Authority, to be paid from the General Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of US Energy** Manager stated that in the packet you will find a letter from US Energy Sciences.

**Toombs County Revolving** There is also a financial statement and their aging Accounts Receivable. This

**Loan:** revolving loan has been recommended by the Development Authority. Now it is presented to the board for approval.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the Revolving Loan to US Energy Sciences. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Renewal** Manager Jones stated that our insurance premium renewal is effective on July 1, **of Health Insurance** 2016.We got a proposal back from Blue Cross / Blue Shield along with some

**Program:** competitive pricing from other insurance companies. On page three of your booklet presented by Shaw Hankins, you will see some of the companies we sought bids from. Aetna Insurance declined to quote. The insurance companies that provided quotes are: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia, Cigna, Humana, United Healthcare. We did not have a good year in our health insurance this year. Claims ran (103 %) One hundred three percent of premium and our goals were ( 75 %) seventy five percent. The proposal came back from Blue Cross / Blue Shield of Georgia with a ( 32.7 % ) thirty two point seven percent increase over last year. There are some alternatives offered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia. All the proposals ran into double digits. Humana was (25.8 % ) Twenty five point eight percent. United Healthcare was a little less than ( 11 % ) eleven percent. After discussing this offer with Shaw Hankins we felt that United Healthcare, was simply a “loss Leader” attempt to have us switch and be hit with an increasing premium next year. We discussed (4) four years ago about keeping health cost down, now we are at a point where the employees may have to make contributions to the health plan cost. At this time it looks like this is what is going to happen due to the rate increase, but we are talking to Shaw Hankins about taking a more active approach in managing our health care cost. Tonight I just wanted to present this to you and next week we can have a called meeting and I will have all the details and present a (3) three year program to bring down some of the cost of the premiums. We are pushed for time because once we choose a plan; there will be a lot of logistic stuff, booklets printed, education briefings, etc.; to present to our employees. Commissioner Dixon asks if we could do like DOT foods and have a clinic on sight. Manager Jones said that DOT initially wanted someone to join them as a joint venture but now they were not interested. In our case we do not have anywhere we can house a clinic for our employees. We had looked at the Jail area but to bring people in and out of that area presents a large security risk. So at this time we don’t have a building we can support an employee clinic type setting.

Manager Jones suggested that this issue be tabled until next week and then have a called meeting to decide on the various options at that time.

Manager Jones and Chairman Tillery agreed to have a called meeting in the morning hours next week on Thursday, May 26, 2016.

**County Manager Report:**

**Financial Report:** Manager Jones explains that we are (33 %) thirty three percent through the year. Expenses in the general fund are at (31%) thirty one percent for the year. All the other funds are looking good, EMS and Landfill are in good shape.

**EMS Report:** Captain Mann gave the EMS report earlier in the meeting.

**Other Miscellaneous**

**Items:** Ezra Taylor Road will have closures in order for the cross drain pipe to be installed. We have posted the closure notices for through traffic in the Advance Newspaper and Radio stations, as well as our website.

Glenn James Road paving is scheduled to start. We are still waiting on the permits from the Corp of Engineers on the far end of that road; we expect to receive those permits within the next (10-20) ten to twenty days.

The prison crew of the Department of Corrections has started at the Toombs Central Recreation Department. They will be working on the football side first, then they will start on the softball complex. They will be there for a while.

Reservations for the Cedar Crossing Community Center are being handled through the Commissioner’s Office. The well at Cedar Crossing Community Center has not been installed yet. They are still looking for a suitable place to drill the well.

**Standing Committee**

**Report:** None

**Commissioners Comment:**

**Commissioner Dixon:** There is only one more week before voting. I encourage everyone to vote.

**Commissioner Cason:** Thank you for the support we receive for everyone. Especially with the ones we have partnership with, Thank you so much for making our jobs easier.

**Commissioner Nobles:** John Jones, the chairman of the Ohoopee Regional Library (with a couple of his staff members) and I plan to go and see the new (twenty-first century) Library in Liberty County. The cost of the Liberty Library was in the area of five million dollars. We received an email telling us all the bills that passed this year that affect the counties; you may want to check your email and look over those.

**Chairman Tillery:** Please keep Willie Haynes, our Chief Appraiser, in our prayers. Most of you know, Willie has been fighting pancreatic cancer for a while. He is meeting with his surgeon this week and we need to keep him in our prayers. I would like to Thank Wendell for reminding everyone to vote.

**Adjournment:**  Chairman Tillery asked for a motion to adjourn if there are no other questions. Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason

to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

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**Michael Blake Tillery, Chairman Helen Harris, County Clerk**