TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Courtroom December 20, 2016 5:30 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

**Call to Order:** Chairman Tillery called the December meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Chairman Tillery asked Commissioner Cason to give the invocation.

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

**Approve Agenda:** Chairman Tillery asked for an approval of the December 20, 2016 Agenda.

Vice Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**November 15, 2016** Chairman Tillery requested a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular

**Regular Board Meeting:** Board Meeting held on November 15, 2016.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Vice Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the November 15, 2016 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Commissioner Nobles abstained due to the fact he was not present at the November 15, 2016 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recognition:** Dr. Robert “Bob” DeJarnette received a plaque for serving on the Toombs

**Dr. Robert “Bob”** County Board of Health from the year 1994 until the end of 2016. Dr. Bob

**DeJarnette - Toombs** has dedicated over forty four years of medical service to our county and

**County Board of Health,** surrounding communities.

**Mr. Carl Sharpe - Toombs**

**County Board of** Mr. Carl Sharpe was present a plaque by Chairman Tillery, for the twenty five

**Assessors, Mr. Van** years served on Toombs County Board of Assessors Board.

**Phillips – Toombs County**

**Magistrate Judge,**  Mr. Van Phillips – Toombs County Magistrate Judge. Judge Rizza O’Conner

**Mr. Chess Fountain –** presented a plaque for the eight years he served, a shirt with the caption of

**Clerk of Courts,** “The Legend has Retired” and read a short poem that was written especially by

**Chairman Blake Tillery** Judge O’Conner for Judge Phillips, entitled: “Twas The Night Before

Retirement”.

Mr. Chess Fountain received a plaque presented by Chairman Tillery, reflecting the thirty four years of service as the Toombs County Clerk of Court. Chairman Tillery stated,”Job well done Mr. Fountain.”

Commissioner McCormick asked that he take a moment of personal privilege. Commissioner McCormick presented a plaque to Michael Blake Tillery for being the Chairman of the Commissioners for the past four years.

**Development Authority** Mr. Mitchell stated, from the Development and the Authority, they wanted to

**Report:**  thanked Chairman Tillery for his leadership for the last few years he worked with them and helped us do things that makes us a county that people know, throughout the state. We appreciate the leadership and professionalism from you and the others and they appreciated that from the Development and the Chamber.

Mr. Bill Mitchell announced the following meeting:

Leadership Toombs-Montgomery – Economic Development, January 26 *(Thursday)*; this session offers an insight into the economics of our community today and a vision of tomorrow. It also presents an understanding of existing and new industry, and economic development efforts by local development authorities.

Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership – Professional Development and Community Service, Tuesday, January 10th, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.-- Understanding the importance of time management skills, personal financial needs, savings tips and formal communication skills. Learning about different career opportunities, interview skills, and educational opportunities. Also learn how non-profit organizations play a vital role in your community.

Toombs County Development Authority –Next meeting is Thursday, January 19th at noon. Groundbreaking- Air- Evac –Wednesday, Jan 4 at 11:00 a.m.  2801 North Street East, Vidalia (Thomas and Betts old building).

Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce- New members as of 12/20/16 we have a total of 39 NEW members.

Merry Christmas to all of you and thank you again for everything you do for the Chamber and the Development Authority. He wished Chairman Tillery the best of Luck at the Senate.

**Department Report:** Director Drew James gave the EMS Department report. The EMS Service had 599 calls for service and had driven 25,838 miles in the month of November. Director James and Captain Glenn Taylor presented the Captain Bars to Paramedic Jonathon Holland for his recent promotion to the Captain position. Director James asked Chairman Tillery to step forward so that he may present him a framed picture with all of the Toombs / Montgomery County EMS Personnel signatures; along with a shirt with the EMS symbol and Blake’s Name embroiled into the shirt.

**Public Participation:** Randall Clark, 585 Sam Beasley Road, stated that he appreciated the County Commissioners and said they were doing a good job and he appreciated that the meeting were started with a prayer. He had only one questions for the Commission, on the Land Use Ordinance Proposal where does it stand? Chairman Tillery replied: The Committee has not reconvened at any point in time so there is nothing brought before us to consider.

**Consideration of Closing** Chairman Tillery stated that there was a public hearing held before the

**Colin Galbreath Road:** Commissioners Meeting for discussion with the public. Chairman Tillery

asked if any of the Commissioners have a comment. Vice-Chairman McCormick stated that the public meeting brought light to the issue that there is a property owner on that road and the only access to their property, would be to use that road. Due to that information, he would not be in favor of moving forward on closing the road. Chairman Tillery asked is there any motion to close the road? There was not a motion given. Chairman Tillery stated, hearing no motion, Mr. Manager, will you read the next item.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of appointments

**Appointments to the** to the Toombs County Recreation Board. There are five open positions on the

**Toombs County** Toombs County recreation board as this time. The Recreation Board had a

**Recreation Board:** meeting on December 21, 2016 and gave a list of recommendations to fill these

positions. The Commissioners had the list of recommended members passed to them before the commissioners meeting began. The names they have recommended are: Ashley Barton, Preston McClendon, Brandon Hartley, Ivan Herndon and Tonwanda Irie. This will fill the five open positions of a nine member board if approved.

Commissioner Nobles asked if the Board of Commissioners appointed the Chairman of their Board or did they elect the Chairman of their Board? Manager Jones stated that they appoint their own Chairman.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to appoint these five people to the Toombs County Recreation Board: Ashley Barton, Preston McClendon, Brandon Hartley, Ivan Herndon and Tonwanda Irie. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of 2016 Beer** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of the 2016

**and Wine Licenses: Jani’s** Beer and Wine Licenses for Jani’s Mart and Cedar Crossing Grocery.

**Mart – Sheima Musa and** They have both complied with all the requirements to receive their

**Cedar Crossing Grocery –** renewed license.

**Sangita Patel:**

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the renewal for both the Jani’s Mart and Cedar Crossing Grocery. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of resolution

**Resolution on use of** on use of Insurance Premium Tax Proceeds. This is the resolution that is

**Insurance Premium Tax** passes every year where you allocate the funds to services rendered to

**Proceeds:** the citizens of the unincorporated areas, such as, Fire Protection, Solid Waste

Collection, Animal Control, and Code Enforcement.

Commission Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the resolution as written on use of the Insurance Premium Tax Proceeds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of an

**Intergovernmental** Intergovernmental agreement with the City of Lyons on Animal Control.

**Agreement with City**  In the Commissioners packet these is a copy of the proposed agreement

**of Lyons on Animal** with the cover letter for the City Manager of Lyons, Jason Hall. The City of Lyons

**Control:** has already voted on it at their City Council meeting and approved. It is the Commissions option to accept the Intergovernmental Agreement as written or not.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to adopt the Intergovernmental agreement with the City of Lyons on the Animal Control. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Software** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of Software license

**License and Related** and related professional services agreement with Data Cloud Solutions, LLC. for

**Professional Services** the assessor’s office staff. A copy of the contract is in the packet from Data

**Agreement for Assessor’s** Cloud Solutions, LLC. This software with the I-pad equipment, will allow all the

**Office:** assessor’s staff to do their work in the field rather than collecting data the

coming back to the office and reentering the data that was collected. This set up will allow the staff to be more efficiency in their work. It will be paid out of their regular operating budget.

Commission Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Data Cloud Solutions, LLC agreement to purchase the software and equipment; to be paid from the Assessor’s Department Regular Operation Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Qualifying** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of qualifying

**Fees for 2017 Elections:** fees for the 2017 Elections. The policy of Toombs County is for the Probate Judge, Chief Election Officer and the County Manager to have a meeting prior to the December Regular Toombs County Commissioners Meeting and discuss which officers are coming up in the coming year and what the qualifying fee should be for the coming year. This meeting was held on December 20, 2016 and determined that there are no offices up for election in 2017 and therefore there are no qualifying fees that the Toombs County Board of Commissioners are required to set.

**Consideration of Auditors** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of auditors

**for 2016 – 2018 Audit:** for 2016 – 2018 audit. Mauldin & Jenkins are the only company for 2016 – 2018 audits. Mauldin & Jenkins are the only company that submitted a bid for the 2016-2018 audits. The Commission needs to appoint Mauldin & Jenkins the contract for doing our audits. Chairman Tillery asked how did this bid compare to the previous contract that we signed with them. Manager Jones stated that the previous contract was quoted as a whole for the three years. The bid that was presented this year was priced for each individual year, with an annual increase of $ 1,000 per year.

Commission Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approved and accepted the bid from Mauldin & Jenkins for the next three years. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated the next item was the consideration of appointment to

**Appointment to Heart** Heart of Georgia Regional Commission. In the packets you will find a letter from

**Of Georgia Regional** Brett Manning, Executive Director of Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional

**Commission:** Brett Manning, Executive Director of Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional

Commission. There need to assign two new members to this commission. Previously Blake Tillery and Manager Jones were selected.

Chairman Tillery stated that it was very important to attend these meetings that Heart of Georgia Regional Commission hold during the year. Chairman Tillery asked the board to consider appointing David Sikes and John Jones to be on the Heart of Georgia Regional Commission.

Commission Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to appoint David Sikes and John Jones to be on the Heart of Georgia Regional Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of**  Manager Jones stated the next item was for consideration of approval for

**Approval for Holiday** Holiday Schedule for 2017. This is identical to the days we had last year.

**Schedule for 2017:**

Commission Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Holiday Schedule presented by Manager Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report:**

**Financial Report:** Manager Jones stated that on the expense side through November we were

doing very well. Collections of Local Option Sales Tax are down by 2.2 percent this year.

**Miscellaneous:** None

**Standing Committee Report:**

**Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner Nobles:**  Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and Congratulations to the Chairman Tillery for being elected to the Georgia Senate. I commend him for the leadership he has given us for the last four years. And he will truly be missed but I feel like we have someone that can fill his shoes and I am looking forward to the next four years.

**Commissioner Cason:** Thank you to all colleagues that are here tonight, I enjoy working with these guys. I am the youngest person on the block and all of you have taught me very well. Thank you for the leadership and the friendship. Thank You Mr. Tillery for who you are and what you have done for us and how much I respect you.

**Commissioner Dixon:** I’ve enjoyed working with you Blake in the past four years and you have done a great job and I wish you the best in your Senate Seat and don’t forget about all of us in Toombs County, Lyons, Vidalia and Santa Claus. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Congratulations toJonathon Holland for his recent promotion to the Captain position, I know you will do a great job.

**Vice-Chairman McCormick:** Mr. Tillery, again, it has been a pleasure, you will be missed. Thank you to all of the employees for the work that you do, in maintaining our county and sometimes it is great duress when people take shots at you but you but I appreciate the grace you take it with and I want to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas.

**Chairman Tillery:** Thank you for letting me server you for the past four years. It has been a pleasure, it has been an honor. My campaign was simple four years ago. We wanted to keep taxes low, pave the some dirt roads, and simply wanted to get along with the cities and all of the surrounding counties. For four years we manage not to as sue each other. We managed to pave a couple of miles of dirt roads and we have reduced the Millage rate. Thank you, but it doesn’t happen because of the five men sitting up here, it happens because when we would ride the dirt roads, we have Fuzzy Swain already out there. Thank You for what all you have done. We had 365 miles of dirt road and now we have 350 miles of dirt roads. Drew, Jonathon, Laurie, and Kathryn, you were having 300 and 400 runs per month, now is 600 miles per month, I don’t know how you do it. I remember earlier on because I wasn’t married or have kids I could sit down and have lunch with you sometimes it would be at Two AM. I enjoyed those time, it let me know what was really going on. Mr. Bobby, you’re your capacity is growing every day, your hotel is full, we got your message. We have to do something on this building first but thank you for your service. Alvin you have done this so many years, I don’t even know where to start. I appreciate you coming to work every day and I am glad we have been able to reduce your stress level a little bit, Thank you for your service. Glenn I didn’t mean to skip you, the reason I did skip you is I just wanted to single you out and tell you if I am ever in an accident, I hope you are the one that picks me up, not that I’m against anyone else but I think that a majority of the people that live in this county feels the same way. Thank you for what you have done. Skipper as well, we task you very day and no one believes you are seventy plus years old, you run around like a forty year old. It has been a pleasure to serve with you and I appreciate you as well. City of Lyons, Thank you as well, you have been kind to me way too long. Maybe we can figure out what we can and can’t do later on this afternoon.

Looking forward in serving you in the next facet; you have my cell phone, I haven’t changed the number. I don’t think this is the end, I think this is just the next step and I am looking forward coming back and working with Chairman Sikes as we continue to do great things for the 28,000 to 29,000 people that live here in Toombs County. Thank you so much.

**Adjournment:** Chairman Tillery stated: I need a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Cason. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM

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