

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**PRESENT:** ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, JEFF McCORMICK, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.

**Call to Order:** Vice-Chairman McCormick called the February Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Vice-Chairman explained that our Chairman, Mr. David Sikes had vocal surgery last week and cannot speak during his healing time. We pray he has a speedy recovery.

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

**Approve Agenda:** Vice-Chairman McCormick asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the February 20, 2018 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Vice-Chairman McCormick asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the January 16, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.

**Regular Board Meeting:**

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the Minutes of the January 16, 2018 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Development Authority Report:**

Michelle Johnson announced the coming meetings as followed: Leadership Toombs-Montgomery Capital Tour with be Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership Graduation will be held Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. There will be a Ribbon Cutting for Coastal Plains Charter High School, Southeastern Early College and Career Academy (SECCA), Vidalia, Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM. Georgia 2030 will be on Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, so save the date. February 2018 Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8 AM in the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom. March 2018 Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon in the Chamber and Development Authority Boardroom.

The Development Authority has two active prospects; Project "Apple Cart" which is a potential local expansion project. A change in corporate leadership has caused some delay, but the project is still active. The second project is "Gingerbread"; a new prospect. RFI due February 21<sup>st</sup>. This is a food processing \$65M investment & 200 new jobs in five years.

Dot Foods Update – per the expansion agreement 2016, Dot Foods has submitted the annual status report 2017. As of December 31, 2017, the total number of FTE positions was 309; the goal was 287. The company has invested \$9,128,601 in capital expenditures in the expansion project; goal \$9M.

The other events are: Retirement Reception for Bill Mitchell and Reid Threlkeld that will be held at Elements Restaurant, Lyons Georgia on Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) visit will be Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018. (Has subsequently been changed to March 20, 2018)

Michelle continued to express the excitement of the Chamber Spectrum Benefits that were being offered as a unique employee benefits program designed as a solution to the ever increasing cost of health insurance. Please consider joining this group for your staff's insurance needs.

**Department Reports:**

**Sheriff Kight** stated that there were 123 arrests, 126 released, with an average daily inmate population of 103. We provided 10 inmate workers to the cities of Vidalia, Lyons, Lyons Fire Department, Toombs County Sheriff's Office and the Toombs County Detention Center. The average daily inmate population was 103 inmates. Southern Correction Medicine that supplies healthcare saw 124 inmates. There were 163 hours

for transportation (52 transports) and 6,122 miles for the month of January. 911 dispatched 3,760 calls. There were 186 traffic stops made for the month of January.

Drew James, EMS Director, stated there were 623 calls for service in the month of January; 529 of those were in Toombs County. 402 Patients were transports to Meadows Regional, others were either a non-transport or the patients were taken to a level one trauma center, such as Memorial Health in Savannah. The mileage for the month of January was 31,751 miles across our fleet. The EMS demonstrated a mock accident to show the impact of how their distracted driving decisions could make a life changing event while driving. The role from the EMS standpoint is to show the area's 8<sup>th</sup> graders how we perform our jobs when responding to an accident.

Vice-Chairman welcomed Toombs County 4-H agent and County Extension Coordinator, Cheryl Poppell and all of the 4-H Students from grades fifth and sixth that had attended the February Commissioners Meeting. Cheryl came forward and introduced Carly Morgan and asked her to step forward and explain what was expected to compete in the Annual Project Achievement Weekend. The fifth and sixth grade students from Toombs County competed in this event. After Miss Morgan finished her introduction, she began with her name, what project she chose to speak about and her placement and each student followed, giving their information and their placement in the District Meeting.

**Public Participation:** None

**Consideration of Request to name Michele Johnson To Greater Savannah Regional Alliance (GRSA) Board and to reappoint Polly Ann Martin to the GRSA Board:** Manager Jones requested that Michelle Johnson and Polly Ann Martin to be appointed to the Greater Savannah Regional Alliance Board.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to appoint Michele Johnson and reappoint Polly Ann Martin to the Greater Savannah Regional Alliance (GRSA) Board. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of the Environmental Conservation On-Site Sewage Management And Permit Ordinance:** Manger Jones presented the Environmental Conservation On-site Sewage Management and Permit Ordinance. There was a public hearing on this Ordinance held at 5:00 PM on February 20, 2018; there were no negative comments. We are asking the Commissioner Board to approve the Environmental Conservation On-Site Sewage Management and Permit Ordinance.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the Environmental Conservation On-Site Sewage Management and Permit Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids for Project 2018-REC-CON-002:** Manager Jones presented the bid from Anderson Concrete in the amount of \$ 19,951 for concrete steps and curb and gutter at the Baseball Park at the Toombs Rec. Department. If approved, SPLOST funds will be used to pay for the Improvements.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the bid from Anderson Concrete Company in the amount of \$ 19,951; paid with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids for Project 2018-REC-PRKLOT-001** Manager Jones explained this project would compete the parking lot with rock and asphalt at the Toombs Rec. Department. We received one bid from SWW Construction in the amount of \$ 52,840. We are asking the board to reject this bid because the bid price is above our original budget that was projected for this project. Instead, the County can purchase the rock and let the Road Department pack the rock down.

Commissioner Carson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to reject the bid and purchase the rock that is needed for the project and allow the Roads Department to pack the rocks down. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids for Solid Waste Compactor:** Manager Jones stated there have been several discussions on the need to have an extra solid waste compactor due to our current compactor, having age on them. We are still looking for a site to replace the green box sight at Petross area with a manned

site in the near future. This purchase would allow us to use the compactor and/or to have an extra compactor ready for the new manned center at Petross. There were three bids submitted, 1) Georgia Baler & Compactor in the amount of \$ 24,165, 2) Nu Life Environmental, Inc. in the amount of \$ 22,688, and 3) Wastequip in the amount of \$ 21,050.55; the purchase would be paid for out of the Landfill account.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the lowest bid from Wastequip in the amount of \$ 21,050.55 and for the Landfill funds be used to pay for the Compactor. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids  
for Padfoot Roller:**

Manager Jones stated the lowest bid for the Padfoot Roller was from Tractor & Equipment Co. in the amount of \$ 80,288; this if for a 2016 Hamm H7iP Compactor with 400 hours on it. The other bid was received from Yancey Brothers for a 2006 Caterpillar that has 1876 hours in the amount of \$ 67,500 or a 2005 with unknown hours (hour meter is not in working), in the amount of \$ 58,500. It is recommended that the Board approve the purchase of the 2016 Hamm Compactor from Tractor & Equipment Company with fewer hours and the later model of the three bids received. If approved, the machine will be paid with SPLOST funds.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the bid from Tractor & Equipment Company in the amount of \$ 80,288 for the 2016 Hamm H7iP Compactor with 400 hours; to be paid with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bid for  
Transport Ventilator for  
EMS:**

Manager Jones explained it had become necessary to replace four of the transport ventilator for the EMS Department. The quote from QuadMed, Inc was a total cost of \$ 20,507.60 but we will be receiving a trauma grant in the amount of \$ 7,520; so the County would be pay the difference from the SPLOST funds if approved.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the purchase of four transport ventilators from QuadMed, Inc. in the amount of \$ 20,507.60. The units will be paid with the trauma grant in the amount of \$ 7,520 and the remaining balance of \$ 12,987.60 will be from the SPLOST account. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids  
for Landscaping at  
Recreation Department  
Baseball Field:**

Manager Jones stated that the bid for landscaping at the Baseball Playing Field at Toombs Recreation Department. There were two bids submitted; one bid was from, The Montfort Group in the amount of \$ 11,650 and the second bid was from Progressive Landscaping & Irrigation in the amount of \$ 4,870. The recommendation to the Board is to approve Progressive Landscaping & Irrigation in the amount of \$ 4,870 and to pay with the existing Recreation funds.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve Progressive Landscaping & Irrigation in the amount of \$ 4,870 and to pay with the existing Recreation funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids  
for Public Works Work  
Truck:**

Manager Jones stated that one of the Public Works Work Trucks was wrecked and declared a total loss, therefore there is a need to replace this truck. Three bids were received; Woody Folsom for a 2018 crew cab 4 x 4 Dodge, in the amount of \$ 29,650, a bid from Vidalia Ford for a 2018 Ford F-150 XL 4 x 4 Crew in the amount of \$ 30,070, and a bid from Paul Thigpen Chevrolet Buick GMC for a 2018 Chev Silverado 4 WD Crew in the amount of 33,017. It is recommended to Board to approve the bid from Woody Folsom for a 2018 Crew Cab 4 x 4 Dodge, in the amount of \$ 29,650 and SPLOST funds to pay for the purchase.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve Woody Folsom for a 2018 crew cab 4 x 4 Dodge, in the amount of \$ 29,650 and SPLOST funds to pay for the purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Motor Replacement in EMS Ambulance 5640:** Manager Jones stated that the motor needs to be replaced in Ambulance # 5640. This is 2014 Chevrolet Silverado truck. Paul Thigpen Chevrolet Buick GMC gave a bid of \$ 13,485 to replace this motor. If approved, SPLOST funds would be used to pay for the repair.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the bid given by Paul Thigpen Chevrolet Buick GMC in the amount \$ 13,485 for the replacement cost of the motor in Ambulance # 5640 and SPLOST funds to pay for the repair. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids For a new Grass Tractor:** Manager Jones explained that last year the county purchased a tractor for the mowing the County ROW. After one year of use, it was clear that we needed more horse power. We received a quote from Lasseter Implement Company where the County can trade in the John Deere we purchased last year and purchase a new John Deere 5085E CAB/MFWD tractor, which will have more horse power, for an additional \$16,500. This purchase will be paid with SPLOST funds.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to purchase the John Deere tractor for the additional price of \$ 16,500 from Lasseter Implement Company and pay with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report:**

**Financial Report:**

Manager Jones stated that there was paper work in the Commissioners packet that gives the progress report from the Wellness Program. It reflects the accomplishments for the past month and the objectives for this month.

Local Option Sales Tax is down from this time last year; it's down by 1.5 percent. The first month is off to a good start budget wise. The auditors will be here in the middle of March.

**Other Miscellaneous**

**Items:**

Vice-Chairman McCormick asked Manager Jones to give an update on the sites that have been visited as far as the Courthouses and Jails. Manager Jones stated that Sheriff Kight, Commissioner Cason and himself visited Valdosta to look at the Lowndes County, facility last week. As the Sheriff stated earlier we average 108 where as they house an average of 600 per month. Lowndes has a unique interesting concept on where they are located. They are located beside the Industrial Park and when you drive up you see these large aluminum warehouses, in which the jail is located. This concept is to blend into the industrial park look. Within these ground, they have Courtrooms where court can be held at the same location. We are moving along on the sites that we plan to visit; maybe one more site we would like to visit, which is a courthouse. Once we have finished the sites we chose to visit, we will be ready to schedule a work session to discuss our options.

Vice-Chairman McCormick asked Manager Jones to give an update on Public Works Building. Manager Jones stated that we are proud to see the old Public Works building is coming down. This was something that has been planned for a number of years. There were three court session going on today and there was more parking space available where the employees of the Road Department usually parked that are now free for parking spaces. Once the building is down and the area is filled in with dirt, there will be a better view of our area as you ride down Highway 280. The Road Department took two weeks to move into their new building located on Highway 15. The furniture for their new building should be here in the next few weeks. The parking lot is being graded and should be completed in two weeks.

**Standing Committee**

**Reports:**

**Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner Cason:**

Commissioner Cason stated that he really enjoys working with everyone.

**Commissioner Dixon:**

Commissioner Dixon thanked everyone for their thought and prayer during Elaine's Mothers passing. John has the card that Elaine has sent to everyone.

**Commissioner McCormick:** Commissioner McCormick thanked all the employees for making their jobs as a Commissioner easy. He also wants to continue prayer for a speedy recovery for our Chairman although Chairman Sikes has restrictions on his speech, he definitely can text.

**Adjournment:** Vice-Chairman McCormick stated that he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM.

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**Jeff McCormick, Vice-Chairman**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Helen Harris, County Clerk**