

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**PRESENT:** **DAVID SIKES, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, TOMMY ROLLINS, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Sikes called the October 15, 2019 meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

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

Chairman Sikes acknowledged that Chess Fountain was in the audience. Chairman Sikes asked Mr. Fountain how many years was he the Clerk of Courts. Mr. Fountain replied, "Thirty-four years and in third year of retirement".

**Approve Agenda:** Chairman Sikes asked for approval of the Agenda.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes  
September 17, 2019  
Regular Board Meeting:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on September 17, 2019.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the September 17, 2019 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes  
September 17, 2019  
Executive Session  
Meeting:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on September 17, 2019.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the September 17, 2019 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Development Authority** **Michele Johnson** stated the Chamber Calendar was as followed: National Chamber Day will be held Wednesday, October 16, 2019. The Chamber is trying to bring awareness of what the Chamber does. Michele continue to explain, we are having a little contest and we have invited all of our Chamber Members to come by the office and get your picture made and share your message about your business on Facebook. The Chamber will do a drawing for five hundred dollars in Community Bucks, where the lucky winner can use the Community Bucks to further their business. Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership Toombs-Montgomery (TMYL) Montgomery County Session will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2019. Candidates Business Forum will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Southeastern Technical College. Leadership Toombs-Montgomery (LTM) Education Session will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2019. Ribbon Cutting at Red Stag Tavern, 149 Mose Coleman Drive in Vidalia will be held on Friday November 1, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. in the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom. Development Authority Calendar: Michele will be going to Metter to the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education (GPPE) Regional Workforce Pipeline Event on October 16, 2019. On October 30<sup>th</sup>, Michele will be attending the Project Manager (PM) 201 Training sponsored by Georgia Power in Atlanta on October 30, 2019. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 12:00 Noon in the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom.

**Department Reports:** **Drew James**, EMS Director, for the month of September there were 571 calls for service and 26,200 miles placed on the fleet of our ambulances. The Ambulance Service also supplied stand-by service on twenty one high school football games, serving five local high schools. Only one unit has had to leave the game so far pending an E-911 call, other than that the service has been able to maintain all twenty one games thus far. The handouts that was provided to the commission is a

Type II Ambulance that is being built in Woodberry Georgia from Custom Trucks & Body Works, as seen in the pictures, our ambulance will have the traditional red and white scheme. As far as a delivery date we are expected to receive the unit in the second week of December then it will be checked off with the State of Georgia before we can place that unit in service. We would like to give credit to the Vidalia-Lyons Moose Lodge 1281 which provided our service with Tommy plush toys to be placed on the department's ambulances. The lodge participated in a nationwide Public Safety Awareness program that provides first responders with the toys to be given to children involved in stressful situations such as car accidents or natural disasters. The dolls have been shown to help calm the children involved in such situations. We just wanted to give a special Thanks to the Lodge for giving these plush toys to our department. Saturday October 26, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Lowes parking lot will be the Public Safety Day. This is one of the largest Public Safety Fair in this region. Everyone is encouraged to come and see all the first responders, we will be doing on-site CPR, as well as blood pressure screening, Air-Evac helicopter will be on-site, Local Fire Department and law enforcement will be there.

**Public Participation:**

**Darriel Lynn**, 140 Eastwood Ct. came forward to express gratitude to the County Commissioners and especially our County Commissioner Darriel Nobles, John Jones and David Sikes. Mr. Lynn stated, "I moved here seven years ago and the road I live on, I was told was not accepted by the county so I took care of the road for about five and a half years and later on I talked with Darriel Nobles he checked into it and Edgewood Drive and Edgewood Ct. was accepted, so John Jones and David Sikes and Darriel Nobles came out to see the roads and they said they would pave the road. They were true to their word, I don't know about the other residences out these but I deeply appreciate what you have done. It is nice not having to drive through pot holes, but again Thank You."

**Consideration of  
Request to Name  
Courtroom in Honor  
of Judge Marvin B.  
Hartley, Jr.:**

Chairman Sikes announced, "Here is the moment you all have been waiting for, County Manager I am turning it over to you." County Manager John Jones stated the next item on the agenda is the consideration of a request to name Courtroom in Honor of Judge Marvin B. Hartley, Jr. In the July 16, 2019 Meeting the Board was presented with a petition requesting the County to name the large courtroom at the current courthouse and any future courthouse the Judge Marvin B. Hartley, Jr. Courtroom. At that time we were presented two Resolutions, one from the City of Vidalia and one from the City of Lyons recommending their support. In addition to that, the Toombs County Bar Association issued a letter of support for and the Middle Georgia Judicial Circuit Bar Association did so as well. Following our policy, we bring before the Board to consider naming the Courtroom in Honor of Judge Marvin B. Hartley, Jr. Commissioner Nobles spoke and stated, "Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to name the big Courtroom in the present Courthouse and a Courtroom in the new Courthouse, if and when it is build, in Honor of Superior Court Judge of Marvin B. Hartley, Jr. as the only Superior Court Judge from Toombs County and for the County to pay for all cost of naming this Courthouse." Vice-Chairman Dixon, seconded the motion. Chairman Sikes stated I have a motion and a second, is there any further discussion? Commissioner Rollins stated that he would have to say something Mr. Chairman, being the Junior member of this group, I got out voted who was going to make the motion and seconded the motion but I am one hundred and ten percent in favor of it and I want to say one thing, I don't know of any one that is more honorable than Judge Marvin Hartley. Commission Cason stated that he was quite young when he was the Judge and I remember him quite well and I want to thank the public for taking the initiative of making him known for the future. Chairman Sikes stated something was told to him that made him extremely proud to put this on the agenda and bring it before the Commission, before it was popular to stand up for Black People, Judge Hartley did to the point where he said he would leave Lyons First Baptist Church if they did not change the policy and allow the Black Members into the Church. That means something to me,

that is awesome and I hope the people in the future continue to ask who he is and what he was about so they will know thing like that on how we should act and how we should look. So with that I am asking if all is in favor, signify by saying aye.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Resolution Approving and Adopting the Toombs County Joint Comprehensive Plan:**

Manager Jones stated the Resolution presented to the Board is a requirement of the Department of Community Affairs under the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. The previous Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2014. We are asking the Board to approve the Resolution approving and adopting the Toombs County Joint Comprehensive Plan.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve and adopt the Resolution for Approving and Adopting the Toombs County Joint Comprehensive Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Annual Service Plan for Four (4) LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitors:**

Manager Jones stated the annual renewal of the service plans for four (4) LifePak 15 monitors that are used on our Ambulances. Drew is here to answer any questions you may have. If approved the fund from the EMS budget will be used to pay for the service plan.

Commissioners Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the renewal of the annual service contract for Four LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitors. Funds from the EMS budget will be used to pay for the service contract. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Annual Service Contract for Five (5) Stryker Electric Stretchers:**

Manager Jones stated this is also a service contract that will cover five (5) Stryker Electric Stretchers. The approximate costs of these stretchers are \$ 18,000 each. This service contract covers any items that need to be replaced on those stretchers. We are asking the Board to approve this annual contract. If approved, funds from the EMS budget will pay for the service contact.

Commissioners Nobles made a motion, seconded by to Commissioner Cason to approve the annual renewal of the service contract for Five Stryker Electric Stretchers. Funds from the EMS budget will be used to pay for the service contract. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Ratifying Purchase & Installation of Three (3) Hot Water Heaters at the Detention Center:**

Manager Jones stated in the Commissioners packets was the proposal on three (3) water heaters. We purchased the Commercial Hybrid Water Heaters System to be installed in the Detention Center. Only one of the three water heaters was working at the time of replacement. We are asking for the Board to approve this purchase and for the Jail Fund to be used to pay for the three hot water heaters.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to ratify the purchase of three hot water heaters at the Detention Center. The Jail Fund will be used to pay for the purchases. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration for the Approval of a Public Hearing on and Ordinance Governing the Use and Regulations of Gray's Landing:**

Manager Jones stated that in the Commissioners packet there are copies of the proposed ordinance for Gray's Landing. Additionally, you have a copy of the Ordinance Acceptance Policy. We are asking the Board to authorize the process to continue. If approved, we will have a Public Hearing on the proposed Ordinance held prior to the Board's November Meeting. At the November Meeting, the Board will consider, after hearing the public's comments from the Public Hearing, decide whether to proceed and approve the ordinance as presented.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by to Vice-Chairman Dixon to authorize the process to continue with the Public Hearing and Ordinance

Governing the use and regulations of Gray's Landing. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report**

**Financial Report:**

Manager Jones stated, at the end of the Third Quarter M & O expenses for the General Fund are 4.3% under budget. Revenue on E-911 is at 95% of the annual budget amount so we are expected to exceed the revenue side of that particular budget and expenses are 11% under budget. Revenue on the Landfill is 8% above budget and expenses are 5% under budget for the year. EMS Revenue and Expenses are right on Budget. September SPLOST collections are up 9.84 % for September 2019 compared to September 2018. The County's share of LOST is up 5.74 % for September 2019 compared to September 2018.

**Other miscellaneous Items:** None

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Commissioners**

**Comments:**

Commissioner Nobles stated that he represented Toombs County on the Regional Commissioner Area Agency on Aging Board for Region 9 and had attended a meeting on the morning of October 15, 2019. There were two good speakers at the meeting that explained a state agency that is called Action Pact Inc. This group helps people with Medicare and Medicaid. Commissioner Nobles will share the information to anyone in the need of help with Medicare and Medicaid issues. Also, there is a Georgia Legal Services Program funded by the State and Federal Funds that provides low income people with representation if they cannot afford Legal Services. The County Clerk has registered all the Commissioners, Chairman and County Manger to attend the 2019 ACCG 9th District Meeting taking place on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner. The meeting will be held at Little Ocmulgee State Park, located at 80 Live Oak Trail, Helena/McRae, GA 31037 (Telfair County). Please place this meeting on your calendars to be at this meeting beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Rollins asked that before Mr. NeeSmith left the meeting, he wanted to say one thing; I appreciate the crowd that is here tonight. I see Attorneys, Judges, individuals that is friends of the family and you too Reid, you are an Attorney, I appreciate everything you did on getting Courtroom named for Judge Hartley.

The family spoke and told how appreciative they were of the decision the Board had made.

Commissioner Nobles announced that he felt the people that had spoken on behalf of Judge Hartley needed to give suggestion on what type of lettering and how the presentation of the naming the Courtroom should be arranged.

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to adjourn from the Regular Board Meeting.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

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David Sikes, Chairman

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