

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: MICHAEL BLAKE TILLERY, JEFF MCCORMICK, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DENNIS DARRIEL NOBLES, HOWARD KAUFOLD, JOHN M. JONES AND BELINDA R. WHIRLEY

- Call to Order:** Chairman Tillery called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
- Invocation:** Chairman Tillery gave the invocation.
- Swearing-In Ceremony
New Commissioners:** Probate Judge Larry Threlkeld led the Swearing-In Ceremony of new Commissioner Alfred Cason and Incumbent Vice-Chairman Jeff McCormick.
- Mr. Cason thanked everyone for allowing him to be a part of this team and looks forward to working with all of the Commission.
- Vice-Chairman McCormick thanked all the employees of the county by continuing to appreciate the fine work done by every department in this county, especially the road department. "Even during Christmas when the area had a lot of rain, they did well. There was a church having services and the road was very bad. The road department responded, and I got a phone call from a gentleman from the church saying because of what this department did, they were able to carry on with their Christmas services. People like to rant but I'm appreciative that we are very responsive when the need arises."
- Approve Agenda:** Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to amend the agenda to add an executive session before adjournment of the regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes:
December 16, 2014 Regular
Meeting December 29, 2014
Called Meeting:** Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to amend the December 16th, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes to show that the county attorney was in attendance. Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the December 29th, 2014 Called Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously for both meetings.
- Employee Recognition:** None
- Public Participation:** None
- Development Authority
Report:** Bill Mitchell of the Development Authority appeared before the Commission to give an update on programs going on with the Chamber and Development Authority. Leadership Toombs-Montgomery Health & Social Session will be held Thursday, February 19, 2015.

Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership Toombs County Day will be Thursday, January 22nd, 2015. The Chamber's Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5th, 2015.

The land has been cleared at the Vidalia Airport. There is about 27 acres that is marketable for future use.

Community Economic Development orientation Program will be held at the Altamaha EMS during March and April. It is a two day meeting with state developers to learn what is going on in economic development beyond the state and a chance to give a presentation on our marketing properties here in Toombs County.

The Spec Building is in the final stages of construction.

Chicken of the Sea has purchased their competitor Bumble Bee. They will have more production & distribution here in Toombs County due to this purchase.

Department Reports:

None.

Presentation by Toombs County Health Department Proposed Portable Toilet Ordinances and Fee:

Mr. Walter White, Department of Health appeared before the Commission to present a Proposed Portable Toilet Ordinance and Fee Charges. Following a brief discussion Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to table until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Motion carried unanimously. **Changes:**

Consideration of Approval of 2015 Beer & Wine License:

**Dan Patrick – Normantown Grocery
Joel Salgado – La Joya Mexican Store
Sheima Musa – Janis Mart
Sangita Patel – OMK Convenience Store
Maria Rodriquez – Fruteria
Susan Simpson – Big Ma's
Susan Simpson – Franks
Vickey Tapley – Benton Lee's
Shobhana M. Patel – Country Pantry**

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve all 2015 Beer & Wine License. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Survey of Bud Jordan Road:

Vice Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the survey of True Point Survey at a cost of \$8,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Grassing Contract with Moses

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the contract in the amount of \$15,500.00 to be paid out of the Landfill Fund. Motion Grass Company: carried unanimously.

Presentation of Impact Statements:

**Portion of Adams Hammock Road
Portion of Bud Jordan Road**

Manager Jones presented impact statements and there is no problem with the roads being closed. Commissioner Nobles made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to declare that a portion of Adams Hammock Road serves no public purpose. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles that it has been determined that a portion of Bud Jordan Road serves no public purpose. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids for
Truck at Landfill:**

Jones presented bids for the landfill dump truck. The recommendation of Dump management is to go with the 2016 Mack Truck from Trans Power, Inc., at a cost of \$120,171.86. Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the recommendation of the purchase of the 2016 Mack Truck at a cost of \$120,171.86 to be paid from Landfill Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report
Financial Report:**

Manager Jones gave the financial report for the month ending December 31st, 2014. Expenses came under budget for the year at 4.9%. There is also a budget amendment included in your packet.

Vice-Chairman made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the 2014 Budget Amendment as presented. Motion carried.

EMS Report:

Jones informed the Commission that there were 503 calls for the month of December. Also, the miles traveled were 21,824. 104 calls were from Montgomery County. February is time to renew the agreement with Montgomery County for another year.

**Presentation of Recreation
Advisory Committee Report:**

Mr. Jones presented the Commission with a copy of the Recreation Advisory Committee Report.

**Presentation of 2014 Audit
Understanding of Services
Agreement from Outside
Auditor:**

Jones presented to the Commission a 2014 Audit of Understanding of Services Agreement from an outside auditor (Mauldin & Jenkins). They will arrive to begin the audit on March 16th, 2015. Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the agreement and authorize the county manager to sign it. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Miscellaneous Items:

Manager Jones presented a copy of a Boat Ramp Operation & Maintenance Agreement, a Lease to the Department of Natural Resources for Boat Ramp Construction, and a Resolution regarding the same from the Department of Natural Resources. Once these have been approved DNR will begin repair

Work at Gray's Landing and will let us know how much money we will receive to help with the rest of the work that needs to be done.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the agreement and lease & operations maintenance with the Department of Natural Resources. Motion carried.

Jones also gave the Commission an update on the voting precinct transfers.

**Standing Committee
Reports:**

None.

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Nobles reminded the Commission about the 2015 District Days at the Capitol to be held on Tuesday, February 10th, 2015 and classes will be available on the 9th. I want to congratulate Mr. Tommy Williams our State Senator from here for becoming Chairman of the Transportation Committee.

Commissioner Cason asked if the training was mandatory. Chairman Tillery informed Cason that the trip would be very informative but not mandatory.

Commissioner Dixon is setting up a meeting for the Public Safety Committee

Vice-Chairman McCormick thanked the Commission and county employees for their condolences during the passing of his father last month. He went on to thank all departments for the fine jobs they do for the county. Also, he thanked the road department for remaining to be so responsive to calls during their off time and commended them all for a job well done.

Chairman Tillery continued the praise of the road department by noting that there was a call last week and within 8 hours of the call the road department had fixed the problem. He thanked them all for a job well done and went on to thank the departments for coming under budget this year. "Thank you, I appreciate that, especially when we are squeezing your budgets and reducing the millage rate."

In conclusion, Tillery informed the Commission that the bridge on HWY 1 will have its ground breaking this month and heard it was only going to be a two lane.

I want to make you aware that there have been some shake ups at Brewton-Parker College and I want you all to know that Brewton-Parker is vital to Toombs County. We have citizens who work there and the students do most of their shopping here. We need to be in tune as we can possible be to help our friends in Montgomery to keep that being a vibrant community."

Also, I wanted to mention that our Magistrate Judge, Rizza O'Connor is one of the editors of Lawyers Division Magazine so not only is she doing big things in Toombs County, she is expanding and making Toombs County known in other areas as well and we want to commend her for doing that.

Tillery informed the Commission that the county had a meeting with SOAPS last week and they want to make some changes to their agreement. I have gone over it line by line but would like for each of you to look over it as well. I will appreciate your comments afterwards. My last comment is to Commissioner Cason," welcome, we look forward to you serving and you will find this is a fun job because of the people you work with and the people you get to serve. We hope you find it just as fulfilling as all of us have."

Executive Session:

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to end executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

As a result of executive session Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon that after all reasonable offers for right-of-way acquisitions on Ezra Taylor Road have expired we authorize our legal counsel, Mr. Kaufold to assert all legal means to acquire this property. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to adjourn at 6:43 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Michael Blake Tillery, Chairman

Attest: _____
Belinda R. Whirley, County Clerk

Workshop Session

15 minutes after the January 20th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

Call to Order: Chairman Tillery called the meeting to order.

**Review of Ordinances
Land Use/ Zoning Ordinance:** The Board has had several calls concerning mobile home parks, chicken coops and junk yards around the county. Vice-Chairman McCormick feels it is necessary to have a zoning ordinance in place. The Commission discussed forming a Land Use & Planning Committee to discuss the needs and concerns of Toombs County.

Chairman Tillery asked the Board to put together a list of names within the two weeks and then narrow it down to be able to vote on them at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Board discussed the building permit fee and everyone agrees that it should be raised and penalties applied for failure to get one. Also, business license for the county was discussed.

Mobile Home Ordinance: The Commission discussed changing the current Mobile Home Ordinance. There were several issues with the wording in the current ordinance. Manager Jones is looking at changing the wording and applying penalties for not displaying decals.

Billboards/Sign Ordinance: It was suggested that the county borrow a sign ordinance from a city or county and see how it compares to the needs of Toombs County or either cover it in the Planning & Zoning Ordinance.

Animal Control Ordinance: The Commission discussed a breeder's license and how to control the number of animals allowed in a home unless they are breeders or a licensed business.

Recommendations from SOAPS were discussed but no formal decisions were made at this time.

**Recreation Advisory
Committee Report:**

The Recreation Advisory Committee Report was presented and discussed. The commission will need to look at funding for improvements being made throughout the county.

Web Site:

The Commission discussed making a change in the county web-site manager due to the death of Mr. Red Wheeler.

Michael Blake Tillery, Chairman

Attest: _____
Belinda R. Whirley, County Clerk