

**TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 17, 2015**

**SMALL COURTROOM  
5:30 PM**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**PRESENT: MICHAEL BLAKE TILLERY, JEFF MCCORMICK, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON,  
DENNIS DARRIEL NOBLES, JOHN M. JONES, HOWARD KAUFOLD AND GAIL WIDNER**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Tillery called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

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

**Approve Agenda:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes  
February 17, 2015  
Regular Board Meeting:** Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of February 17, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the minutes for the Public Hearing for Road Closing on February 17, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

**Employee Recognition:** Chairman Tillery awarded Barry Brown, Chief Deputy and 911 Director with a gift certificate in the amount of \$50.00 to Steeple Chase for being voted as Employee of the Month for March 2015.

**Public Participation:** None

**Development Authority  
Report:** Bill Mitchell of the Development Authority appeared before the Commission to give an update on the Chamber and the Development Authority.

He spoke of the infrastructure issue at the industrial park with both gas and water. Some of the companies interested are in need

of additional water and gas. The Development Authority is looking into options to help with these issues, possibly a grant.

The Spec Building at the park should be completed this Friday. They will showcase the spec building and the airport property in Atlanta.

Mr. Mitchell thanked the county manager and the maintenance crews for all their work at the Park. The Development Authority meeting will be held March 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 at the Chamber.

Nominations for 2015-2016 Leadership Toombs-Montgomery are now being accepted. Chamber Connection will be at the Gillis Building on March 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:15 to 7:00. Showcasing Toombs-Montgomery will be on May 1<sup>st</sup> with details upcoming.

**Department Reports:**

None

**Presentation of Resolution to DOT Foods:**

County Manager Jones expressed the County's gratitude for the quick response from DOT Foods on March 1, 2015 when the Detention Center experienced an electrical fire in the main breaker box. Dot Foods responded and the county was able to preserve large quantities of food stored at the Detention Center Cafeteria thus saving the taxpayers of Toombs County thousands of dollars to replace.

Chairman Tillery presented each of the gentlemen directly responsible for DOT Food's response a copy of the Resolution designated for their recognition.

**Presentation of Georgia Power Analysis of HVAC System at Courthouse:**

County Manager Jones presented the commissioners with an analysis of the HVAC System at the Courthouse provide by Steven Faulkner, Energy Systems, Georgia Power. Georgia Power recommends the third option. County Manager Jones is going to visit Burke County next week to look at a their system like option #3. This option is going to run approximately \$500,000.00 design and build. This price does not include the disassembly of the old unit.

**Consideration of 2015 Budget for Jail Fund, Law Library and Revolving Loan Fund:**

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the 2015 Budget Ordinance for the Law Library and Revolving Loan Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Appointment of Gail Widner as Interim County Clerk:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to appoint Gail Widner as Interim County Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation of 2014 Financial Review of Health Insurance:** County Manager Jones gave a brief presentation of our Health Insurance review for the past four years. This presentation was provided by Shaw Hankins, Administrator of our health insurance plan. Our health insurance premium is the single largest line item of our budget. In 2013 the county started taking aggressive action to reduce claims by instituting a wellness program. Insurance companies look for a 75% or less breakpoint. The county is at around 50% with renewal in three months. The county feels that when we renew in July that we will have several companies seeking our business due to the decrease in claims. Therefore, we should get more competitive bids.

The county agreed to reimburse \$1,000.00 back to employees who met the \$2,000.00 deductible last year. Chairman Tillery questioned how many employees we had to pay the \$1,000.00 reimbursement. County Manager Jones estimated 5 or 6.

Commissioner Dixon questioned joining with the cities to see if we could get a better rate. County Manager Jones said that we tried that with the City of Lyons last year but the majority of their employees were younger, therefore it was not beneficial to Lyons to join us.

**County Manager Report Financial Report:** County Manager Jones presented the financial report for the month ending February 28, 2015. The two months represented are on budget at this time.

**EMS Report:** There were 513 calls for the month of February. There were 18,524 miles put on the ambulances. The revenue was \$163,000.00 with \$136,000.00 in expenditures showing a profit for the month of February.

EMS Consultants has recommended the Creditors Bureau Associates of Georgia as a collection agency for EMS. There is a contract in your packet that we will bring up next month after our attorney has had a chance to look it over and comment.

<b>Website Up-Date:</b>	The website has been redesigned and is up and running as of this week. We still need additional information and some updating but it has a whole new look.
<b>Up-Date on Radio Communications:</b>	The repeaters for the radio communications previously approved have been back-ordered. They have a backlog of several months.
<b>Other Miscellaneous Items:</b>	
<b>Moses Grass Company:</b>	<p>The amount of \$15,500.00 was approved in January for Moses Grass Company to grass approximately ten (10) acres at the Landfill to satisfy an EPD Audit. It turned out that there was eighteen (18) acres increasing the amount to \$28,520.00. County Manager Jones asked for a motion to approve the increase.</p> <p>Commissioner Nobles made a motion seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the increase for Moses Grass in the amount of \$28,520.00 to be paid out of Landfill funds. Motion approved unanimously.</p>
<b>Mercy Medical Ministries:</b>	In your packets is a letter from Mercy Medical Ministries expressing their appreciation for the CDBG funds approved by the commissioners to build the Mercy Medical Clinic.
<b>Bud Jordan Road Proposal:</b>	Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the proposal from McLendon Enterprises for clearing and grubbing on Bud Jordan Road in the amount of \$30,864.23. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Grays Landing :</b>	County Manager Jones spoke with DNR this week regarding Grays Landing. We should have the lease and maintenance agreement from them within the next two weeks. They should have itemized details on what they will be doing which should be everything except the bathrooms. They probably will not start until after July 1 <sup>st</sup> so everything can be completed within the same physical year.
<b>Glynn James Road:</b>	McLendon Enterprises started on Phase I of Glynn James Road last week. This phase goes from US #1 to Tomlin Road.
<b>Standing Committee Reports Commissioner Comments:</b>	Commissioner Nobles stated that he was still getting an education on block grants. He is still getting pictures and letters together. He and Tommy Thompson will be attending a landfill conference next week. He thanked the county employees for the jobs they do.

Commissioner Cason thanked the other commissioners for their assistance in making sure he is at the right place at the right time. He thanked Commissioner Dixon for letting him ride with him and all his help.

Commissioner Dixon stated that even though he has very few dirt roads in his district he has still received several calls. He thanked Mr. Swain and his crew for the work they do. He also thanked Barry Brown for his years of service and hard work with E-911.

Vice-Chairman McCormick reiterated everyone's comments. He also thanked all county employees and the office staff for their response when the calls come in.

Chairman Tillery stated that we are now paving our first county road in ten (10) years. He thanked the county employees that have been so responsive to all the calls. He thanked Alvin Hitchcock, William Swain, Tommy Thompson, Bobby Smith, Raymond Carroll and Skipper Smith.

Chairman Tillery gave a list of the things that the commissioners need to work on:

Animal Control Ordinance – Work on the 2<sup>nd</sup> item which is the number of animals per residence if not a breeder with breeder's license.

Joint Recreation – County Manager Jones stated that we are waiting on the elected officials for both cities and the county to get together.

Mobile Home Ordinance – We need to look back over the changes and move on it so it is not being brought back up in every meeting.

Water Issue – At the industrial park there are some issues regarding water and sewer for potential prospects. City of Lyons has sort of taken over the water, the County has taken over the trash and the City of Vidalia has ran natural gas and also helped recruit. The City of Lyons is hesitant, due to the spending of public funds, to make the decision on a major investment for water and sewer. Chairman Tillery asked the commissioners to consider ways that we might be able to help the City of Lyons to help that may alleviate some of their fears.

**Adjournment:**

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

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**Michael Blake Tillery, Chairman**

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Gail Widner, Interim County Clerk**