TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Courtroom A

March 15, 2016 5:30 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

Call to Order: Chairman Tillery called the February meeting to order at 5:32 P.M.

Invocation: Please remember our County Manager tonight; he had a death in his family and will not be with us tonight. Commissioner Cason gave the invocation.

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

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Tillery asked for a motion to approve the February 23, 2016 minutes. Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the February 23, 2016 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee Recognition: Chairman Tillery recognized our guest at the meeting. We are proud to have Mrs. Brenda Williams, our Tax Commissioner, join us tonight. She is unopposed so we have her in office for the next four years. Chairman Tillery asked Mrs. Williams if she would like to say a few words. Mrs. Williams stated: She appreciated every one especially during the time she was sick. She appreciated all the prayers and was glad to be with us.

Public Participation: None

Development Authority Mr. Bill Mitchell announced that the Youth Leadership graduated last night.

Report: This year there were five schools that participated. Graduations for the adults will be held at the Lyons Depot on March 18th from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Woody Folsom is having a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 17th at 9:00 AM. The Garden House in Vidalia will be having their ribbon cutting ceremony on Durden Street. Paul Thigpen will have their ground-breaking ceremony on Tuesday, April 5th at 11:00 in the morning.

Department Reports: William Mann for EMS stated that last month they had 536 calls and had driven 15,774 miles. EMS has a program that the County Manager wanted us to present. The program will be called EMS House Call Program. Basically if you have Medicare and Medicaid and you are discharged, then return within three days with the same complaint; Medicare and Medicaid will not pay for it. With the House Call Program the patient would be given a Brochure explaining that within three days, personnel from the EMS Department would come to their house and do a welfare check on them. This program would be beneficial to Meadows as well as EMS. EMS would know more about the patients and hopefully would keep down the repeated visits to the Emergency Room.

Consideration of New Chairman Tillery said the next item on the agenda was the consideration of a

Beer and Wine License- new beer and wine license for Center Grocery Store. It was applied for by Mr.

Center Grocery–Karabhai Karabhai Patel. Do any of the commissioners have a motion or any questions?

Patel: Vice-Chairman McCormick stated that this was in his district and appreciated anyone trying to operate a small business. Looking over the Ordinance as it is written and reading over some of the stipulations where it talks about the character of the neighborhood; Center United Methodist Church has invested a lot there and has continued to invest in that particular community. There is some concern about how the Ordinance is written on reference to the 300 feet from the front door to front door, however looking at the measurements it is only 90 feet from property line to property line. It is not clearly stated in our ordinance on how we should measure. With that being said, again I appreciate small business but I cannot make a motion to grant this at this time. Chairman Tillery asked if there were any other Commissioners that would like to speak.

Chairman Tillery announced that with no motion given the item was dropped.

Consideration of Resolution Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the consideration for a resolution

Regarding Speed Limit on reguarding the speed limit on US Highway Number 1.

US Highway 1

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to accept the resolution regarding the speed limit on US Highway 1 to be raised to the limit of 65. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the consideration of the approval

of Ordinance for of an Ordinance for enforcement of county environmental health regulations.

Enforcement of County

Environmental Health Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick

Regulations to approve the Ordinance for the enforcement of the County Environmental Health regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Authorizing Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the consideration of authorizing

Chairman to sign a Statewide the chairman to sign a statewide mutual aid and assistance agreement with Mutual Aid and Assistance GEMA and Homeland Security.

Agreement with GEMA and

Homeland Security: Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to

approve the Chairman to sign a statewide mutual aid and assistance agreement

with GEMA and Homeland Security. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration Approval of Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the consideration approval of a

Sale of Mobile Home sale of a mobile home acquired by the county. This is a mobile home that the acquired by county in taxes were not paid on and it did not sale at public auction; therefore the

tax sale county now owns the mobile home. In last month’s regular board meeting it was approved that this mobile home could be demolished and after further review; it would be more cost effective to sell it. Chairman Tillery stated that we have already said that this property is surplus; if we could get a motion allowing the sale of this mobile home rather than demolishing it.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick for the approval of the sale of the Mobile Home as surplus that was acquired by the county in a tax sale. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Exception Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was is the consideration of a septic

to Septic Tank Ordinance: Tank ordinance exception. The ordinance states that you cannot install a septic tank in a 100 year flood zone but in this case at Gray’s-Landing they are not installing a septic tank but they are making improvements and upgrading their septic system. Management has asked us to give for an exception to this and allow them to upgrade their septic system.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the ordinance exception to Gray’s Landing for the improvement needed to their septic system. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the consideration of a

Moratorium on Landfills moratorium on landfills in Toombs County. Mr. Harry Moses (Chairman of the in Toombs County Land Use Study Committee) was asked to speak on this matter. Mr. Moses explained that Wayne County is having problems with privately owned landfills. Looking at ordinances there are no controls on the landfills in Toombs County - multiple division or controls over the sighting or controls of where landfill could be placed. At this time all you need to start a landfill is an EDP permit to start a landfill. In an attempt to avoid the problems that they are having in Wayne County, the land committee is asking for the commission to consider the moratorium to give the county time to address some controls where we do not end up in the same position as Wayne County. Somewhere between six months and twelve months should be enough time.

Chairman Tillery asked if there was a motion to consider the moratorium.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon that we place a moratorium on landfills in Toombs County that would be consummated by the moratorium that will become in effective by vote tonight; with a written document provided to us by legal counsel for the length of six months. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Acceptance Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the consideration of acceptance

of Pavement Management of pavement management program. You have to manage your pavement the Program: same as you would do maintenance on your buildings. This is a program that allows us to prioritize repairs. We received two bids: Hofstadter & Associates bid was $97,650 and the Barnhardt Group is $70,938.50. Mr. Kaufold stated that because it was maintenance on the roads, SPLOST funds can be used.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the Barnhardt Group in the amount of $ 70,938.50; to be paid with SPLOST funds. The Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Public Chairman Tillery stated that the next item was the disposal of the land and

Hearing on the Disposal of building on 901 W. North Street in Vidalia. This building is also known as the

Land and Building on 901 “Old Oxford Building”. This is where Pineland Behavioral Health is located at

W. North Street, Vidalia, this time. Manager Jones has sent a letter to Dr. Wilcox giving him an outline of Georgia: acceptance before any statutory procedures can begin. Dr. Wilcox has expressed that the Vidalia City School System will accept the building “as is”, will assume any and all liability with the existing Community Development Block Grant and any and all statutory requirements shall be successfully complied with.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the preceding with the required public hearing upon the contingencies of a written acceptance from the Vidalia City School System to obtain the property. The Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Report:

Financial Report: Chairman Tillery stated that we do not have the County Manager to give a report but the financial review was in the packets. We are 16.67% through the year and expenses are at 15.9% of budget. Landfill expenses are at 9.1% and Revenue at 20.2% of budget. EMS expense is at 15.1% with Revenue at 17.7% of budget. LOST is down from February of last year at 9.54% with YTD down at 9.35%.

This is very concerning as you know sales tax is related directly to our property tax.

EMS Report: Chairman Tillery stated that Mr. Mann had given the EMS Report at the beginning of the meeting.

Other Miscellaneous You will also see a report from Skipper in your packet. He gave four citations in items: the month of February.

Standing Committee: None

Commissioner Nobles: None

Commissioner Cason: Everything is going well. We just need to keep ourselves focused.

Commissioner Dixon: I would like to thank Fuzzy and his department. I was riding down some of the dirt roads and know it has been hard to keep the roads maintained.

Vice-Chairman McCormick: I would like to say thank you to all the employees and for the reports that they turn in for our meetings. Thank you to the commission for the flowers you sent for the passing of my grandmother. I want to say a big Thank you to our Chairman. As many of you know our Chairman has qualified to run for state senate. As a friend and as a colleague we are proud of you. We believe you going to Atlanta will put Toombs County in even better shape than it is now. We just wanted you to know we will be praying for you.

Chairman Tillery: Thank you for your kind comments. If there is one thing you can take away with you tonight, it is that we do not do very well without John. With me trying to go through the agenda and to figure out what is going on; well, we get the praise and the phone calls and look good when you (John Jones) do well. But it is because of what all of you do from the top on down. John and Helen set a good bar and you all meet it every single time.

Thank you for everything you do and please continue to keep John and his family in your prayers.

Adjournment: Chairman Tillery stated: with nothing further I will entertain a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairman

McCormick. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM

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