**TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Courtroom A**

**September 20, 2016 5:30 PM**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### PRESENT: BLAKE TILLERY, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, HOWARD KAUFOLD, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.

**Call to Order:** Chairman Tillery called the September meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Chairman Tillery asked Commissioner Cason to give the invocation.

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

Chairman Tillery stated that Commissioner McCormick will not be able to join us this evening; he had a fund raiser engagement with his job and could not attend.

**Approve Agenda:** Chairman Tillery asked for an approval of the September 20, 2016 Agenda.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Tillery requested a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular

**August 16, 2016** Regular Board Meeting held on August 16, 2016.

**Regular Board**

**Meeting:** Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the August 16, 2016 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Development Authority** Mr. Bill Mitchell announced the Leadership Toombs-Montgomery Agribusiness **Report:** will be held on September 23 (Friday). The group will be studying the evolution of agribusiness in our economy, the role it plays and challenges for the future.

Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership – Business and Industry will be held on Tuesday, October 18th, 8:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. This session includes touring area business and industries and to learn what it takes to be an entrepreneur. It will cover business, industry, and agriculture. Toombs County Development Authority next meeting is Thursday, October 20th at noon. There will be ribbon cutting for the new sidewalk, Trails Along Rails, in Lyons on Tuesday, October 4th at 10:00 A.M. The Business Expo is a large success; in fact it was the biggest turn out with 62 booths and more than 500 people attending the Expo.

**Department Report:** Captain Willie Mann of the EMS Department reported that the service has 626 calls / runs and had driven 25,873 miles in the month of August.

**Public Participation:** NONE

**Land Use Committee** Mr. Harry Moses came forward and addressed the commissioners. He stated **Report:** that the board appointed the land use study committee in July of 2015, which consists of members, himself, Ricky Mitchell, Ben Sanders, Tommy Rollins, and Mike McKinley. The committee has deliberated for the past fifteen months and we now need to seek information from the public. In order for there to be something for the public to see when comments were solicited, the committee pulled pieces of land use and zoning plans from several different counties: Coffee, Bullock, Turner, and Stephens, to name a few. “This draft is not meant to be a final document; it’s meant to start discussion.” We are sure there are some things that need changing and feel the best way to find those is to roll out the items we are pulled from various other counties for the public to read and comment.

The process that the committee will follow is to have five public hearings to solicit and receive the public comments on the committee’s work. The meetings will be held: 09/27/16 at Vidalia Onion & Vegetable Research Center; 09/29/16 at Cedar Crossing Community Center; 10/03/16 at Normantown Fire Station; 10/06/16 at Ohoopee Fire Station; 10/10/16 at the Fire Department Training Station. We hope to receive constructive criticism on things that should be changed. The Public Hearings will start at 7:00 P.M. each night. The committee would like to advertise these meeting on the Radio and in the Newspaper. The Commissioners gave us a budget for travel and to visit other communities; so far we have done that research out of our own pockets, so that money remains. We would like to spend it on as much advertising as possible so as many people as possible will know about and hopefully attend these meetings.

Depending on the comments, we may have something to present to the Commissioners at the next meeting, reflecting the concerns and comments citizens have made in these five Public Hearings that were held.

Chairman Tillery asked if there were any questions for Mr. Moses. Commissioner Dixon said that he would like to thank Harry and all of the guys on the committee; I know you put in a lot of time and hard work and we appreciate your efforts. Harry Moses replied that he appreciated the County’s staff.

Chairman Tillery asked if the map presented in front of the Commissioners was one of the maps that would be taken to the meetings and what did it represent. Mr. Moses explained that the map was the existing land use for the County with the individual parcel designation on them. “This is what the land in Toombs is presently being used for and we do not suggest to change this.” Again, this is just a starting point for conversation. It is not a final plan.

Commissioner Nobles wanted to also thank Mr. Moses for his times spend on this committee.

Chairman Tillery did an overview of the discussion on the Land Use. He stated that what is being presented is only a courtesy draft and isn’t even a final draft for Commissioners consideration. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to get public feedback concerning this document. Chairman Tillery felt that it will be very wise to hold the meetings and be open to more if necessary. He thanked Mr. Moses for laying it out that way. This way the public will have an opportunity to speak and suggest things.

Commissioner Nobles asked that after the meeting would the committee make corrections and adjustments to the courtesy draft. Mr. Moses replied, yes and, after making changes based on public comment, this would become the proposal to be presented to the board for consideration. Chairman Tillery asked, do you know when the proposed ordinance would be presented? Mr. Moses replied, if there is not any substantial amount of changes it could be soon; but if there are more it could be substantially longer to work in or create those changes.

Chairman Tillery reminded that the board, that according to County Policy, no ordinance would come before the Board and pass in the same meeting immediately, so nothing could possibly be voted on at the October meeting. Again thank you.

**Landfill Moratorium:** Mr. Moses noted the landfill moratorium was on the night’s agenda, which was also a recommendation of the Land Use Committee. He asked Chairman Tillery if he would be kind enough to take up the Extending of the Moratorium on permitting Landfill within Toombs County for an additional six months, so that he could answer any question they may have while he was standing there. Chairman Tillery asked Mr. Moses if he was asking for them to vote on the extension of the Moratorium and he replied, yes. Chairman Tillery then asked that the six months Landfill Moratorium be brought to the floor. It was explained that Wayne County was experiencing quite an issue concerning a private landfill and coal ash being shipped there from as far away as Washington State. The county could not place a permit moratorium on landfills by law, but they could pass a reasonable restriction of one. Six months was a reasonable restriction and was the recommendation of the committee. Chairman Tillery asked if there were any questions about the Moratorium. No one had any questions so Chairman Tillery asked for a motion on extending the Moratorium on the Landfill.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to extend the Moratorium on permitting Landfill within Toombs County for an additional six months. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Fred** Manager Jones stated that the next item was the consideration of Fred Brogdon **Brogdon as County** as the County Designee with the Altamaha River Partnership. Toombs County **Designee With the** is a member of that group. Fred has been active in that group for a number of **Altamaha River** years and we need a motion from the board that he can serve as Designee **Partnership:** to their meeting and so forth.Obviously if any of the Commissioners would like to attend any of those meeting, they are more than welcome to attend them, but again Fred has been active for a number of years and this will allow him to act on our behalf and communicate back to us on the things that come up in the meeting.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Cason to appoint Fred Brogdon as County Designee with the Altamaha River Partnership. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of MOU** Manager Jones stated that the next item was the consideration of a MOU

**between Georgia** between Georgia Emergency Management & Homeland Security Agency,

**Emergency Management** formally known as GEMA and Toombs County. It is a standard agreement we

**& Homeland Security** have signed in the past. The board will need to grant authority to the

**(GEMHSA) and Toombs** Chairman to sign the agreement.

**County:**

Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Cason grant the authority, to the Chairman, to sign the agreement between Georgia Emergency Management & Homeland Security (GEMSHA) and Toombs County. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Extending** Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles

**the Moratorium on** to extend the Moratorium on permitting a Landfill within Toombs County for an

**permitting a Landfill within** additional six months. Motion carried unanimously.

**Toombs County for an** (See last paragraph in the Land Use Committee report section.)

**additional six months:**

**Consideration for Letter** Manager Jones stated the next item was the Consideration for Letter of Support

**of Support for Emanuel** for Emanuel County for Emanuel County Development Authority USDA Loan

**County for Emanuel** Application for infrastructure at their I-16 Park. They have asked for us to sign

**County Development** the letter. I have forwarded this information to Bill at the Chamber and he does

**Authority USDA Loan** not a problem with the letter being signed. Manager Jones asked the board to

**for infrastructure at** give theChairman the authority to sign the Letter of Support for Emanuel

**their I-16 Park:** County.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion and seconded by Commissioner

Dixon give Chairman Tillery the authority to sign the Letter of Support for Emanuel County for Emanuel County Development Authority USDA Loan for infrastructure at their I-16 Park. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones explained that there was a need to make a couple of **administrative changes** administrative changes in our Animal Control Ordinance. These changes are

**To Animal Control** necessary because we have discussed the possibilities of consolidating animal

**Ordinance:** control with the City of Lyons. On page two, 14-1-3A where it states the Animal Control Officer is employed by the board of commissioners, we would like to add “or his designee”. That way the animal control officer could work for us and Lyons and save money for both. The other item is number five where we would give the Animal Control Officer the authority to write citations based on the enforcement of this chapter. Manager Jones stated that this is administrative changes and as such does not merit the need of a Public Hearing.

Commissioner Cason made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the administrative changes in the Animal Control Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated that the next item is the consideration of recommended

**Recommended** contribution to ACCG Defined Benefit Pension Plan. This is a budgeted item but

**Contribution to ACCG** he also needs to have a budget amendment to move $ 67,000. from **Defined Benefit Pension** contingency to this line item to make that recommended contribution; which is

**Plan for 2016:** what we have always done based on the actuary tables that they send us. Manager Jones asked the board to give permission to move $ 67,000 from the contingency to this line item. Funding this fully prevents our community from having pension issues you may have read about in the City of Chicago, etc.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles to move $ 67,000. from the contingency to this line item. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Request** Manager Jones stated that the next item is the consideration of request from

**from Sheriff’s Office for** Sheriff’s Office for the purchase of six (6) vehicle cameras. There are some

**the purchase of six (6)** cameras that are no longer working and need to be replaced. In your packet

**vehicle cameras:** you have several bids that they have received. There is also a letter from the Sheriff with an explanation of why he would like to get these cameras. This will place cameras in all of our patrol vehicles. The Sheriff is requesting that the board accept the bid from Hub’s Electronics in the amount of $ 26,070. and will be paid from SPLOST funds.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Cason approval of the purchase of six vehicle cameras from Hub Communications in the amount of $26,070.00. and to be paid from SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated the next item is the consideration of Intergovernmental

**Intergovernmental** Service Agreement with the City of Lyons on county participation on

**Service Agreement** construction of Parker Street Extension. On Bulldog Road/Lyons Center Road by

**with the City of Lyons** the new High School, there is traffic congestion at eight o’clock in the morning

**on County Participation** hours and three o’clock in the afternoon. This proposed road is across from

**on construction of**  Parker Street so the new road would be called Parker Street Extension. The

**Parker Street Extension:** Extension would run from Lyons Center Road to the back of the school’s property and connect to Bellview; Bellview runs parallel to Highway 280 into Ezra Taylor. This in intergovernmental agreement will allow the prep work to be done on the new road, by the County saving the City of Lyons and it’s taxpayers substantially; which will alleviate the traffic problems in that area, where three schools are located; the High School, the Middle School and the Elementary School. The Board of Education is going to deed this road to the city and once the county does the site prep work, the city will be responsible for maintaining that road. Traffic in this area is becoming a major issue and this will help to address the traffic problem.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Intergovernmental Service Agreement with the City of Lyons on county participation on construction of Parker Street Extension. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids on** Manager Jones stated the next item is the consideration of bids on Project

**Project 2016-R&B-VAR-001:** 2016-R&B-VAR-001. This is for the maintenance and repair on three bridges and six roads. The three bridges needing repair are on Aimwell Road, South Thompson Road, George Davis Road and the six roads are as follows: Green Oak Road, Bostwick Circle, Regency Road, North Thompson Pond Road, and two roads in Pinewood Sub-division (Pinecrest and Jungle Court). We received one bid from McLendon Enterprises in the amount of $ 50,691.97 to complete the patch work on these areas. If the board approves the money will be paid out of SPLOST.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles for the approval of the bid from McLendon Enterprises in the amount of $ 50,691.97 on Project 2016-R&B-VAR-001 to be paid out of SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated we are doing a lot of renovating work at Toombs Central

**Approval of** at the Recreational Facilities and this is to pay for the flooring and cabinets in

**Improvements at Toombs** the concessions stand area. Handy Andy’s quote on the flooring is $ 6,292.89

**Recreational Facilities at** and the cabinets are $ 5,620.00. We are asking the board to approve these

**Toombs Central:** purchases using SPLOST funds.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Dixon for the approval of the improvements at Toombs Recreational Facilities at Toombs Central. This is for the concession stand area with the Handy Andy’s quote on the flooring being in the amount of $ 6,292.89 and the cabinets being in the amount of $ 5,620.00. Both will be paid out of SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval** Manager Jones said the next item is the approval of the additional $ 10,396.50

**for additional $10,396.50**  needed for Scott Drive Project. We asked the contractor to widen the road and

**for Project 2015-PW-** pave it with triple surface treat, which is not asphalt. This additional request

-**Scott-Drive-001** exceeded what our original purchase order was. The board needs to approve the additional cost of $ 10,396.50 on that project. We did go out and measure and the contractor did use the quantity based on the change order. We will use SPLOST funds to pay for the additional cost.

Commissioner Cason made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Dixon approval of the additional $ 10,396.50 for Project 2015-PW-Scott-Drive-001 and will pay with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report:**

**Financial Report:** Manager Jones stated that we are on budget for expenses year-to-date through August. We have had three straight months of collections of Local Option Sales Tax collection is up from the prior year but August was not, we were down two percent. Year-to-date sales tax collections are down about two percent as well.

In your packet you will see that we were awarded our CDBG Grant; this is the second time we applied for it. The Commissioners requested the grant to pave and improve drainage on Pendleton Creek Road and part of Deer Run and Oscar Cruz Road. The board needs to approve the Chairman to sign the ALGA contract and for them to be the administrator for the 2016 CDBG project.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Chairman to sign the ALGA contract as administrator of the 2016 CDBG Project. Motion carried unanimously.

As you know we continue to have space and HVAC issues here at the Courthouse and at the Detention Center. The Courthouse is still running on the original HVAC system from the 1960’s which we have been told will not last much longer and will cost million plus to replace. We have requested proposals on what would be the effective way to address those matters. We only received two proposals. Chairman Tillery asked Manger Jones if he had any recommendations and Manager Jones replied, No, not at this point and time.

If we award them the feasibility study, they will come back and anywhere between six and twelve months will complete a feasibility study and give us some options to consider. We are not contractually bound to them to do the project; all this is for the feasibility study. By next month there should be a recommendation to the board to whom to choose or we could decide to put it back out for bid. There are not a lot of architects that design Detention Centers.

There are ads in the newspaper with the five year history of the tax digest.

We will hold a called meeting on October 4th, 2016 at 5:30 PM to adopt the millage rate for the County for the coming year.

**EMS Report:** The EMS report was given at the first of the meeting during the Department Reports.

**Other miscellaneous Items:** None

**Standing Committee:** None

**Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner Dixon:** Commissioner Nobles, County Manger and I went to the EMS cook-out Saturday and we had a good fellowship and we had a good time too. We really have some good people working for us.

**Commissioner Cason:** Thank all the road committee for the immediate results on many things I have asked and I think the people out in the ward really appreciate it. Thank You.

**Commissioner Nobles:** Thanks to the EMS Staff for the invitation to the Saturday’s get-together. It was very enjoyable and I got to meet some people that I did not know. I want to thank all the county employees the work they do. I believe we are on the right track. In the next two years, I think we will be able to build and have a stronger County.

**Chairman Tillery:** We should have around three to four thousand dollars to spend on advertising the Public Hearings on the Land Use Ordinance Proposal.I strongly suggest these meetings be highly advertised with these funds. I want to take a second to brag on the Chairman Elect Sikes. The Chairman elect has been going to individuals and talking with them and sitting down with them and asking how they feel. So, David, Thank you on behalf of all of us for the role you have placed in talking and trying to figure out what is going on. Also, Chairman Elect Sikes owns a paving company and has been very helpful in helping us estimate cost and decide if bids are good bids on our many projects. Thank you for going ahead and giving us some inside help on that. I think you are going to see a lot of good things in Toombs County in the next four years, not because we are bad people by any means, but we simply did not have the expertise to do that and he brings that to the table andthat’s going to be a lot better for the County in the next four years. He even donated something down at Grays Landing to make the remake down there a little bit better. There’s a lot of moving pieces right now and for a variety of reasons we are truly the bright spot in South East Georgia. Thank you to the Road Crew for what you did during the tropical storm, for staying alert. We did not have any problems around here because you stayed on the ball.

Chairman Tillery announced that there would be a four minute recess before that going into Executive Session, to discuss a law suit and personnel issues.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles to go into an executive session after a four minute recess. Motion carried unanimously.

**Executive Session:** During the executive session, there was discussion on a law suit and personnel issues.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Nobles to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Dixon spoke on the behalf of the Public Safety Committee and recommended Drew James as the new EMS Director for Toombs/Montgomery EMS.

Commissioner Noble made a motion and seconded by Commissioner Cason to elect Drew James as the new EMS Director for Toombs/Montgomery EMS effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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