TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Courtroom A

September 19, 2017 5:30 PM

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

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Call to Order: Chairman Sikes called the September meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Invocation: Commissioner Cason gave the invocation.

Approve Agenda: Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Cason would like to amend the agenda to add Consideration of the poles and lights for the Baseball Field at Toombs Central Recreation Department; which will be presented just before the County Managers Financial Report; this was seconded by Commissioner Dixon. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the August 15, 2017 August 15, 2017 Regular Regular Board Meeting.

Board Meeting

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Minutes of the August 15, 2017 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Development Authority Manager Jones gave the report for Mr. Bill Mitchell on the behalf of the Chamber.

Report: Leadership Toombs-Montgomery Agribusiness will be held September 22nd. The topic will be the Evolution of Agribusiness in our economy, the role it plays and challenges for the future. Toombs Montgomery Youth Leadership Our Community at a Glance Part one, will be Thursday, October 12 from 8:00 AM until 2:30 PM. This session will tour Toombs County and will cover business and industries, agriculture, government and education in Toombs County. Toombs County Development Authority will meet Thursday, September 28th at Noon. Business Expo will be held Thursday, September 28th from 4:00 PM until 7:30 PM at the Vidalia Community Center; advance tickets will be five dollars and will be ten dollars at the door. Customer Appreciation Day at Hardware Pizza; this will be all day, 10% off, on Tuesday October the 17th. Toombs Montgomery Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday October 19th, you can get more information on becoming a sponsor on the Chambers Website.

Department Reports: Sheriff Kight, Sheriff of Toombs County: Sheriff Kight stated that he appreciated the Deputies helping with getting the trees off the road where our emergency vehicles could have safe passages during the bad weather from Hurricane Irma. The road department did a good job of clearing the roads as well. There were many citizens that brought tractors and other equipment to help with the fallen trees and debris. Cedar Crossing, Marvin Yancey and Toombs County Fire Department did a great job clearing up on the South end of the County, which was hit the hardest. Sheriff Kight said he saw a community that pulled together and they he was proud of our County. There was a total of 428 man hours reported to the EMA department for FEMA to review.

There were 150 arrests for the month of August, 144 released, with a daily population of 125. There were fifty- six inmates that needed to be seen by a nurse. There were 299 hours used for transportation of prisoners and 5,746 miles. E911 has 3,783 dispatch calls; 3,893 calls were received in at dispatch.

Chairman Sikes stated, “Great Job on the storm clean up and the protection given during the storm, endangering yourself personally, and your men out there fighting for the cause of the people. Thank you very much and if you would let’s get together and plan a cook out for everybody.”

Drew James with EMS Department, Mr. Drew James stated that he would like to pick up where the Sheriff left off. Not only as the EMS Director but a citizen of this county, he was extremely proud to see of the departments come together. There is a lot that goes into the preparation leading up to a storm and to see the Fire, EMS, Sheriff Office, EMA and Road department come together, really paid off when the storm hit.

Director James gave a copy of the Meadows Connect, an internal publication that is produced by Meadows Regional Hospital, which featured an article about one of the EMS Crews that transferred a premature baby to Savannah. On September 10, 2017 a baby was born premature (24 weeks). Multiple calls were made trying to find a neonatal intensive care unit to transport the baby to another facility; all services turn down our request. Caption Glenn Taylor and myself contacted EMA to get weather conditions in preparation for the transfer. Director James just wanted to spotlight that crew that, with the help of six others, loaded the incubator with life support into the back of the ambulance. Captain Taylor, two physicians, and Advanced EMT Mike Young behind the wheel, made the transfer to Savannah. Director James just wanted to give kudos to the crew that transferred the baby to Savannah, as well as Meadows Labor and Delivery for delivering the baby.

The August numbers for EMS were 571 calls and 26,000 miles driven. With fall weather approaching, comes Football Season; we proudly serve all five of our High Schools games with standby. There was an in service with RTCA trainer, Kenny Crawford, covering head concussion to spinal injuries that could occur with and without football equipment. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month; EMS will be wearing their pink again this year. Each person in our department is asked to donate ten dollars for the cause and hopefully we will raise $700 of money as we did last year, for breast cancer. All proceeds go to Meadows Cancer Center in Vidalia. As always we appreciate your support.

Chairman Sikes asked Director James if they had an update on the baby that was transferred and Director James replied, “The baby is still not out of the woods but everything up to this point has been positive.” Chairman Sikes stated that our EMA Director request that once the winds pick up speed of fifty miles per hour gust to not go out for safety, but your men said, I don’t have a problem with that because when we are called, we’re called. We appreciate your department for standing up for what they believe in and we really appreciate you and your department for that.

Public Participation: Elliott Coursey, Courthouse Security, spoke and announced that the Remembrance Walk was postponed due to the weather conditions. The original scheduled date was September 9, 2017 and was rescheduled for November 4, 2017. The path will be the same, from the Courthouse Square to Southeastern Technical College Parking Lot.

Paper work has been sent for the new date and Mr. Coursey is trying to line up a band and other special guest for the event.

Mary West from Jefferson County and an Olive Researcher. Ms. West wanted to speak to the Commission and introduce herself to them. She is running for the 12th Congressional District as an independent. She has served as a Democrat, as time has gone by she stated that she had become increasingly uncomfortable with partisan politics. She grew up in a small community and would like for some of the control to come back to local government rather than the control being at the Federal level. She asked for our support and thanked the Commission for their time.

Hope Wolfe, 1309 Lawson Road. Ms. Wolfe wanted to express her concern for her children and others that live on Lawson Road. The school bus does not drop off her children in the same place as before because a portion of Lawson Road is not available for the bus to turn around at. The new bus stop is located where we have to travel to get to our children and there is a school program that brings their oldest child to their home at 7:00 PM and in a few weeks it will be dark at that time of the day. There are six kids that are affected on this road and we would like for you to look into this matter.

Consideration for Manager Jones explained that this is a new application due to new ownership of the

Approval of the store that is located in the south end of the County. The Counties Beer & Wine license following Beer & Wine is not transferable. The application is in compliance with the ordinance for the Beer Licenses: and Wine License to be issued to Muruti Numh Corp.

Muruti Numh Corp Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to grant

Dba: Pop’s General Store the Beer & Wine License to Muruti Numb Corp dba: Pop’s General Store. Motion (Hermang Bharsar) carried unanimously.

Charolais General Store, Manager Jones explained that this is a new application and establishment located at LLC (Benjamin J. McLendon) 1739 Highway 1 N., at the intersection of SR 130 and Loop Road. The application is in compliance with ordinance for the Beer and Wine License to be issued to Charolais General Store, LLC (Benjami J. McLendon).

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to grant the Beer and Wine Permit to Charolais General Store, LLC (Benjamin J. McLendon). Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Request Manager Jones stated that in the packets, there was a request from property owner

to close a portion of to close a portion of Lawson Road. This road dead ends into the property of the land

Lawson Road: owners and the owners have requested for Toombs County to close a portion of the road where the land on both sides of the road belongs to them. Our policy requires us, first, to receive a written request of the closing of the road or portions of, ten day prior to our Commissioners Meeting, then for the County Manager to request impact statements from the Toombs County Board of Education (Bus Driver Coordinator), Toombs County Road Supervisor, EMS Director, and the Code Enforcement. The Commission has these impact statements in your packet pertaining to this request. Now, the Commission must decide whether or not the road meets substantial public purpose. This does not abandon or close the road, it only allows us to continue with the next step, which will be notifying all adjacent land owners by mail; place signs on the affected road which notifies the public of a potential closing of the road (or portion of), and the Public Hearing; advertise in the local newspaper for two weeks of the Public Hearing for comments and/or objections. In the following Regular Monthly Commissioners meeting the board will decide to close the road.

Commissioner Dixon asked if there were any homes located on this portion of the road. Manager Jones replied that there was a house at the end of the road but it belonged to the land owner. Attorney Kaufold stated to note that the Emergency Medical Services would have a problem getting to the house if the road was closed.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to proceed to the next step on the request to close a portion of Lawson Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of bids for Manager Jones stated that last year we were not awarded the Safety Grant but we

the 2017 LMIG Safety re-applied and was awarded the LMIG Safety Grant this year. According to the DOT Grant (ProJect 2017- safety report, the intersection of SR 178 and Johnson Corner Road was identified as

LMIG-Safety-01 one of the most dangerous intersections in our County. Because of this report this

Intersection of SR 178 intersection was chosen to be modified because it met the requirements for the Safety

& Johnson Corner Road: Grant. McLendon Enterprises was the only bid we received in the amount of $ 189,239.05 in which we will receive $125,000 from the Grant and the remaining balance will be paid from SPLOST funds. DOT has filled out the permit for the work to be done and basically we just have to sign the permit if we wish to proceed.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to sign the permit and to accept the bid from McLendon Enterprises in the amount of $ 189,239.05, of which $ 125,000. Will be paid from the 2017 LMIG Safety Grant and the remaining balance be paid from the SPLOST funds. This is for the 2017 LMIG Safety Grant (ProJect 2017-LMIG-Safety-01) Intersection of SR 178 and Johnson Corner Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration for declaring Manager Jones stated that the next item was for consideration of declaring a 1998

1998 Ford F250 as Obsolete Ford F250 truck as obsolete and selling as scrap. The transmission has stopped working Property and sell as salvage: in this vehicle and there is a lot of safety issue with it and this is why Manager Jones does not recommend selling to the public. Manager Jones requested the board todeclared the truck as obsolete and sold for scrap.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to declare (one) 1998 Ford F250 as obsolete property and sell as salvage. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Manager Jones explained that Mr. Nobles had been our voting delegate in the past and

appointment of county we need to reappoint him as the voting delegate to ACCG if the board is willing. This is

voting delegate to ACCG: where he can vote on the different proposals that ACCG would like to bring before the legislature. A couple of these issues are jail diversion for the mentally ill; another is the modernization of the 911 fees. As we all know, the fee structure for E911 does not cover the cost of operation of E911 department.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to reappoint Commissioner Nobles to be the Counties Voting Delegate to ACCG. Motion carried unanimously. This is an emergency bid for the HVAC unit for the District Attorney’s Office in the Ross Bowen Building. The unit quit working a couple of weeks ago and we needed to do of HVAC for the District something real quick to get it back running again. This unit is about eighteen years old. Bobby Kimball, our HVAC consultant, recommended that we scrap the old unit and purchase a new unit. In the packet there is a bid from Rivers in the amount of $ 5,958. for a new unit and the board needs to approve before we order the unit. If approved, SPLOST funds will be use to make the purchase.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the purchase of a new HVAC unit from Rivers in the amount of $ 5,958. and to be paid with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Contract Manager Jones wanted to stop and reiterate what the sheriff said; he continues to say,

with the Heart of Georgia it was a pretty remarkable thing that happen Monday, September 11th, in this Altamaha Regional Community. It was a pleasure and privilege (not to see a disaster unfold but) to watch

Commission to provide the folks at work, doing what we did. We had literally hundreds of people out during

technical assistance the storm, like the Sheriff said, left their family home to come out and get things for the development cleared for the safety of our Community. It was humbling to see, a part of the

of the pre-disaster community that came together like that. We were fortunate, I don’t know of anyone

mitigation plan: that was substantially hurt from the storm. I am extremely proud to be a part of this Community. Having said that, the contract with the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission to provide technical assistance for the development of the pre-disaster mitigation plan is a requirement of FEMA & GEMA. The Regional Commission helps write this plan and helps provide the technical assistance to do it. The total cost is not to exceed $ 21,000. This will take six to twelve months to complete the process. We would like for the Commission to approve where we may move forward. This will be paid out of the general fund.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Contract with the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission to provide technical assistance for the development of the pre-disaster mitigation plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Manager Jones stated that at this time, we are requesting the board to table this. We bids for a believe we will be getting more bids on this project that would be helpful.

Padfoot Roller: Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to table this issue until we receive further bids. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration Manager Jones stated, first let discuss the Wiring Harness for the D6 Bulldozer at the of repair of the landfill. We received a bid from Yancey Brothers in the amount of $ 8,027.03 to wiring harness replace the wiring harness on the D6 Bulldozer. Due to the electrical issue they have and Pin & been having, everyone feels that it is in our best interest to remove the old wiring Bushing Turn harness and replace it with a new one. If approved this will be paid out of the landfill on the funds.D6 Bulldozer at the Landfill: Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve at the Landfill: the quote from Yancey Brothers in the amount of $ 8,027.03 to replace the wiring harness on the D6 Bulldozer at the landfill. Motion carried unanimously.

Manager Jones continues to say that it is time to do maintenance on the Pin & Bushing Turn on the same D6 Bulldozer that needs the new wiring harness. Since it is time for the maintenance on the Pin & Bushing we suggest going ahead while Yancey Brothers are here and do that maintenance. The cost of the maintenance is $ 6,378; if approved it will paid from the Landfill funds.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Pin & Bushing Maintenance by Yancey Brothers in the amount of $ 6,378. for the D6 Bulldozer at the landfill and to be paid with Landfill funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of bids for Manager stated that since we are disposing the old truck located at the landfill, we

a truck at the landfill: are going to take the landfill operators truck and replace it with that truck, then replace the landfill operators truck with a new one. The lowest bid was from Woody Folsom in the amount of $ 22,357. Manager Jones suggested purchasing this truck and payingfrom the Landfill funds.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to purchase a new truck from Woody Folsom, for the landfill, in the amount of $ 22,357. and to be paid from the Landfill funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration for Lighting Manager Jones stated this is the item that was added to the agenda. This is for the at the Baseball field atlighting for the Baseball field at the Recreation Department at Toombs Central. The The Recreation Department poles at the field are very old, we do not know how old, but they are leaning really bad At Toombs Central. with really large holes in them, from what we suspect Wood Peckers, now it has become a safety issue. We had Musco Lighting to quote replacing those poles with the galvanized steel pole with concrete foundation. There is a guaranteed of twenty five years that come with the poles and lights. They will replace any lights to go out within these twenty five years. The bid was for $ 119,000. and that seems high but again it is taken care of for the next twenty five years. For a number of years we have save SPLOST funds for the Recreation Department and so we have the funds in the SPLOST funds to cover this cost of replacing the poles and lights at the Baseball field at Toombs Central.

Commissioner Nobles asked if we needed to replace the poles and light at the Football Field. Manager Jones stated, not at this time, the poles and lights are in fairly good shape at the football field. Commissioner Dixon asked how long it would take to install the poles and lights? Manager Jones replies about thirty days. Graham Electric out of Dublin Georgia will be installing them.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the purchase of galvanized steel pole with concrete foundation at the Baseball field at the Recreation Department at Toombs Central from Musco lighting in the amount of $ 119,000. to be paid with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Report: Manager Jones displayed photos of the road work that has been done in the County.

Road Projects Up-Date: We have paved a few roads and seal treated some roads. Some of the short dirt roads we were able to pave by using a process called Triple Surface treatment; this is thesame procedure we did on Scott Drive a couple years ago to see how it would work out. This is a less costly procedure to do rather than the traditional way. All of these roads were short dead end roads that were in heavily residential areas. It takes a lot a time to dead head a motor grader on these roads, the County will be saving a lot of time by the triple surface treatment.

There were pictures of Quail Ridge Run before and after the HA5 treatment and you could see a good bit of improvement. This treatment was applied to about fourteen miles of roads.

DOT required us to close Green Tippett Road because of the bridge on that road failed the DOT inspection. We place a notice on our website notifying the public of the closure. Currently the Department of Transportation has selected this bridge to be replaced, under their low impact program. DOT has a let date of December 2018. We have a couple of contractors looking at in right now to see what they would charge us to do the repairs on that bridge so that we may open the road up until the bridge is replaced.

Financial Report: The Local Option Sales Tax collections were down 6.27 percent for the month and down 4 % for the year. Manager Jones stated that he has made inquires to the Department of Revenue to get some type of explanation for the decline but have not gotten a response from them.

Other Miscellaneous Items: None

Wellness Program Manager Jones said the Wellness Program is looking really good and very pleased with the results. Chairman Sikes added that there was a twenty one day challenge to not drink any sugar drinks, such as sweet tea, cokes or coffee that has sweetener added.

Standing Committee: None

Reports:

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Nobles: Commissioner Nobles told the audience that the County is a part of the Altamaha River Keepers Partnerships. They are meeting at Towns Bluff in Hazlehurst, Georgia tomorrow. Fred Brogdon is our representative and we plan to go together to the meeting tomorrow.

Commissioner Dixon: Commissioner Dixon wanted the Thank the Sheriff’s Department, EMA, EMS and our Road Department for what you did during the storm. I had a lot of ladies and guys at work without electricity for several days. I know the Manager and Chairman was riding around looking at the damages and they picked me up and I rode with them.

Adjournment: Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion for adjournment.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

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**David Sikes, Chairman Helen Harris, County Clerk**