

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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

**Call to Order:** Chairman Sikes called the May Meeting to order at 5:40 P.M.

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

Chairman Sikes welcomed Chairman of the Board of Commission for Montgomery County, Mr. Leland Adams, and then stated, "We are proud that you have joined us tonight."

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

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the May 15, 2018 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the April 17, 2018  
**April 17, 2018** Regular Board Meeting.

**Regular Board Meeting:**

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2018 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimous.

**Development Authority**  
**Report:**

The new health insurance program is going very well. There were two groups currently placed with thirty nine employees currently enrolled. There will be two more companies to be moved next renewal. The annualized savings for businesses in the community is \$ 127,877 or \$ 3,278 per employee per year. Showcasing in Toombs-Montgomery was last Friday Night, Thank you so much for your participation. If you see Chair Elect, Pat Dixon and Committee Chair, Mary Edmonds or any of the Committee for the showcase, including Mr. Wendell Dixon's Wife, Elaine; please give them a pat on the back; we had a record year. This fund raiser helps with the Chambers Expense and keeps the membership cost down for all of its members. There were thirty local businesses that participated in the April 12<sup>th</sup> workshop. The deadline for Leadership Toombs-Montgomery will be May 15<sup>th</sup>, applications are due by May 31<sup>st</sup>. The selection will be made for the Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership, by the month of July. The upcoming events are: Lottie's Pocket ribbon cutting on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM, Lyons. Great Promise Partnership (GPP) Cornerstone Community Awards Luncheon on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM in Savannah. Georgia Statewide Tour, formerly Georgia 2030 will be held on Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Vidalia Community Center. April 2018 meeting will be Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 AM in the Chamber & Development Authority boardroom. Michelle said there was one more manufacturing prospect. The Department of Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service has new designated opportunities zones in Toombs County. We will be looking into this opportunity and see what it is all about. The next Board meeting will be held Thursday, at 12:00 noon in the Chamber and Development Authority Boardroom.

Chairman Sikes announced that there was an honored guest here at this meeting. On July 11, 1987 the new Cedar Crossing Volunteer Fire Department was called into action for the first time at 8:20 AM; Mr. Wayne Brantley was there. Tonight we are commending Mr. Wayne Brantley for his thirty one years of service at the Cedar Crossing Volunteer Fire Department. Wayne and his family started the Cedar Crossing Volunteer Fire Department in 1987. The pictures are displayed on the wall and they are also on the counter beside us for your viewing. Chairman Sikes said that he has worked with Wayne for the past few years and he is an honorable man. Chairman Sikes un-veiled and read the plaque that was presented to Wayne. Wayne was given the opportunity to speak. After Wayne spoke, there were several others that spoke on his behalf telling him how much that appreciated his years of service.

**Department Reports:** Drew James, Director of the EMS Department: March was another breaking record, 702 calls for service; April 632 calls for service. The Service accumulated 29,320 miles for the month of April. Two medical standbys were done in April. One was for the Special Olympics on April 13<sup>th</sup> with 140 student athletics. Second, was the Vidalia Onion Festival which was from April 27<sup>th</sup> until April 29<sup>th</sup>. Georgia Trauma Commission Grant will provide \$3,400 that will be used to purchase Binder lift for all our trucks which will help with the strain that occurs in the back area when lifting a patient. May 22, 2018 at 7:00 PM our department will be having the Awards Ceremony and Banquet and we extend a welcome to our Commission.

Manager Jones gave the Landfill report. For the month of April, the Convenient Centers took in 288 tons and there was 4,288 tons taken in at the landfill.

**Public Participation:** Mr. Tommy Rollins asked for everyone to cast their vote in the early voting process and if you miss early voting, please vote on Tuesday.

Mr. Fred Dennis, owner and operator of Dennis Sports Shop at the intersection of US 1 and Highway 147. We would like for the Commissioners to allow the people of the rural area to have a referendum for alcohol sales on Sunday. You are aware that the City of Vidalia, Lyons and Santa Clause can sell on Sunday but we cannot sell it on Sunday. Please allow the voters to say yes or no to the alcohol sales on Sunday.

Steve Hutcheson announced that he was running for the School Board, District Five and asked for everyone's vote.

**Consideration of Proclamation of EMS Week May 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>** Manager Jones stated the next item on the agenda is the consideration of proclamation of EMS Week May 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Sikes read the Proclamation of EMS Week and then asked for a Motion to approve the Proclamation of EMS Week May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 26<sup>th</sup> and for his signature of the Proclamation of EMS as read.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Proclamation of EMS Week May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 26<sup>th</sup> and for the Chairman to sign the Proclamation of EMS Week. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Buds For Project 2018-PW-VARRD-002** Manager Jones said this is a proposal that we have asked for bids to pave three roads. Bud Jordan that is approximately 3.5 miles, Bobby Williamson which is 2,900 feet and Blaxton Road which is 4,000 feet. There was two bids, one from Dykes Grassing and Littlefield Construction Company. The bids were opened on April 20, 2018 and Dykes Grassing was the lowest bid at \$ 717,000; Little Field's bid was \$734,488. We will use LMIG State Funds that are given to each county and city each year and SPLOST funds to pay for these projects, if the Board would approve the lowest bid from Dykes Grassing.

Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the lowest bid from Dykes Grassing Company in the amount of \$ 717,000 to complete this project with LIMIG and SPLOST funds to pay for the project. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Proposal for Toombs Countywide Transportation Study:** Manager Jones said this is something that we have been discussing with GDOT and the Cities for almost a year now. GDOT will prepare these studies and eighty percent will be paid through Federal Funds (Federal Grant); local governments have to put in twenty percent. GDOT will prepare a comprehensive transportation study and develop a long term plan for transportation for all of Toombs County. There have been discussions with the Cities on how to pay for the \$ 250,000 study; \$200,000 will be paid through the Federal Grant Funds and the remaining \$50,000 will come from the local government. The Cities have agreed to split it by the LMIG formula. We will use SPLOST funds to pay for that. Manager Jones would like for the board to accept the proposal where we can move forward. This again is a Toombs County Wide Study that will be performed by GDOT.

Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the proposal from GDOT for Toombs Countywide Transportation Study. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Proposal for Courthouse & Detention Center Feasibility Study and Phase 1 Programming & Conceptual Design**

Manager Jones stated that this is a project that we have been working on for the last four years on trying to determine what the long range plans were for the Courthouse and the Detention Center. There was three firm to choose from and Hussey Gay Bell & DeYoung International, Inc. from Savannah, Georgia was chosen to continue with for a Feasibility study and Phase 1 Programming & Conceptual Design. Their firm will come back with four options to choose from and the price of this study is \$ 200,000 and a \$ 4,000 cap on travel. If approved, SPLOST funds will be used to pay for the study.

Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the proposal for the Courthouse and Detention Center Feasibility Study from Hussey Gay Bell & DeYoung International, Inc. from Savannah, Georgia for the price of \$ 200,000 and a \$ 4,000 cap on travel. This will be paid with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report  
Financial Report**

Manager Jones said, We are thirty three percent through the year on the Budget. On the Maintenance and Operation Budget we are at twenty eight percent completed of expenditures for the month. We are running approximately five percent below budget.

**Up-Date Bridge Replacement – Green-Tippett Road:**

Green Tippett Road Bridge has been closed from thru traffic for some time now. The bridge on this road is a GDOT project and they are fifty percent finished with the plans on that bridge and the estimated let date is January 2019 and the construction to begin July 2019. This project will be paid by GDOT.

**Up-Date Federal Safety Project Grant:**

This is the widening of Lyons Center Road, six miles; two feet on each side. The schedule let date is June of this year, with the construction being done on the second part of the year. It is financed with Federal Funds and GDOT with handle that project.

**Other Miscellaneous Items:**

Manager Jones said there was a GDOT meeting a couple of weeks ago on the by-pass for US 1 between Lyons and Vidalia. GDOT has another meeting planned for May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Toombs Central School from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Everyone that is along this section of US 1 should have received a notice. This planning project is broken into three segments. This segment is North of Williams Creek to State Route 56. This is an informal meeting with right-a-way plans for everyone to see. All owner of property along this segment of US 1 will have a chance to see how it will impact your property.

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Commissioners Comments:** None

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Sikes ask for a Motion to adjourn the Regular Commissioners Meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 PM.

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David Sikes, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Helen Harris, County Clerk