

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

- PRESENT:** **DAVID SIKES, JEFF McCORMICK, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS**
- Call to Order:** Chairman Sikes called the July Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
- Invocation:** Vice-Chairman McCormick gave the invocation.
- Approve Agenda:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.  
  
Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the July 17, 2018 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes June 19, 2018 Regular Board Meeting:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the June 19, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.  
  
Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2018 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimous.
- Development Authority Report:** Michele Johnson announced on the Chamber side, Solace Hospice has a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on July 19, 2018, at 4:00 PM - 101 McIntosh Street in Vidalia. There will be a Ribbon Cutting and Open House for the new Vidalia High School on July 24, 2018, from 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM. There will be a Georgia State Wide Tour in Vidalia on August 9, 2018 at 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM at the Vidalia Community Center. Save the Date, there will be the Toombs/Montgomery Business Expo on September 13, 2018 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Vidalia Community Center. There will not be a Chamber Board Meeting in July. The Development Authority side, Michele stated that she and Polly Ann Martin are the representative for the County for the GSRA (Greater Savannah Regional Authority) Group. This meeting will be held in Atlanta on August 20, 2018. There are still Revolving Loan Funds available. The next Development Authority meeting will be held Thursday, July 19, 2018 at Noon in the Chamber and Development Authority Boardroom.
- Department Reports:** Drew James, EMS Director, stated there were 610 calls for service in the month of June and 30,250 miles were placed on the fleet of ambulances. There was one community outreach that will be held Saturday, July 28, 2018, from 9:00 AM until Noon at the Southeastern College. They are having their Community Back to School Bash, in which EMS will be involved in. July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, marked a millstone for the Ambulance Department; a phone call was answered at 8:24 AM, which marked the Tenth Anniversary for being Toombs/Montgomery EMS and falling under the County Commission. Mr. Drew announced that he appreciated all the support that had been given to them and was looking forward to the next ten years.
- Public Participation:** Elliott Coursey presented his Cancer Crusade Event. The walk will begin September 8, 2018 at 9:00 AM, at the Southeastern College in Vidalia and will be traveling East on Hwy 280. The walk will end at the Toombs High School with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Band from Fort Stewart. In the Auditorium of the High School, the Parris Island Marine Brass Quintet Band out of South Carolina will be performing.
- Presentation by Mauldin & Jenkins of 2017 Audit:** Manager Jones introduced David Irwin. Mr. David Irwin is an Audit Partner with Mauldin & Jenkins. Mr. Irwin presented an overview of the Counties 2017 Calendar year. The audit was a smooth and efficient audit; Toombs County has a clean audit. We would like to thank Mr. Jones and his staff for all of their hard work this year.
- Consideration of Approval of the Closing of Ben Wolfe Road:** Manager Jones stated the written request has been received from the property owners, the impact statements for Code Enforcement, Public Works Department, EMS and Toombs County Schools Transportation Director and the advertised Public Hearing Notice have been completed. At the Public Hearing this afternoon between 5:00 PM

and 5:30 PM there was not any objections from the public. Manager Jones recommends that the closure and abandonment of Ben Wolfe Road be honored and revert to the original property owner.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon that Ben Wolfe Road be closed because it serves no substantial purpose. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Fiscal Year 2019 Budget for Office of the District Attorney for the Middle Judicial Circuit:**

Manager Jones stated that District Attorney Hayward Altman sent a memorandum on March 30, 2018 requesting that an increase of \$ 60,841 (Circuit-Wide) to fund an additional investigator for his office. The County Managers in the Circuit met and discussed the increase, Guy Singletary of Emanuel County met with the District Attorney to get additional details of the request. Manager Jones continued to explain, funding for this Department is determined by population using the last census of each County in the Circuit. Toombs County having the largest population of the five Counties in the Circuit, Toombs portion will be 27.52 percent, which results in an overall budget of \$ 235,972 for this proposed budget. This will take effect July 1, 2018 because this is the beginning of their fiscal year. This will increase their budget from the prior year by \$ 16,743.31 for this position if granted. After discussing with Mr. Altman, he assured this would shorten the time we house inmates.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to approve the request for additional funding of \$ 16,743.31 for the District Attorney Middle Judicial Circuit of Georgia's Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Nobles asked if the District Attorney has an office in each County. Manager Jones replied, yes in every County except one, so four out of five Counties have offices. The five Counties in our circuit are Candler, Emanuel, Jefferson, Toombs and Washington. Commissioner Nobles stated that their office is in the Ross Building and clarified that the County does not charge them any rent for office space. Manager Jones elaborated on the fact that the office in each County offset the travel expenses they had in previous years.

**Consideration of Approval to Authorize the Quit-Claim Deed to former Ohoopsee Voting Precinct:**

Manager Jones stated that on May 22, 2012 we prepared a deed to release our interest in the property at the Ohoopsee Voting Precinct. The property is being sold again and purchaser's attorney requested our county attorney to prepare a Quit Claim deed that will clear up any possible interest the County would have in that property.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason for Toombs County to approve the Chairman to sign the Quit-Claim Deed to resolve any issue that may arise with the Ohoopsee Voting Precinct Property. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Resolution Authorizing a 9-1-1 Charge on Postpaid Telephone Service within Toombs County Replacing Existing Resolution:**  
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**Consideration of Approval of Resolution Authorizing a 9-1-1 Charge on Prepaid Wireless Telephone Service within Toombs County Replacing Existing Resolution:**

Manager Jones stated that he was combining the next two items on the agenda. Both this and the next agenda item are the result of the passage of HB 751. ACCG has worked very hard on House Bill 751. Neither of these two resolutions create any tax nor any additional burden on the county, our taxpayers or the telephone service buying public. Both are technical resolutions that will bring Toombs County into compliance with the requirements of HB 751. The resolutions are due to the newly created authority no later than November 1, 2018. This is the result of several years of effort by ACCG to bring more accountability and verification that 911 fees are being properly charged, collected and remitted. Because of the difference in prepaid and postpaid telecommunication services there are two separate resolutions that will need to be passed. The board has been requested that both of the resolutions be approved.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick on Toombs County approval of the Resolutions authorizing a 911 charge on both postpaid and prepaid wireless telephone service within Toombs County. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Changes to Existing Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and**

There are only a few changes that need to be made to the existing Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance. The email that was received from Frank Carubba of the Georgia EPD Watershed Protection Branch and is in your packet

**Pollution Control Ordinance:**

covers the changes that were requested. This ordinance is one that the EPD required every county to have. There were some changes made in the year 2016 and we need to update our Ordinance to be compliant with these changes. The basic requirement is that if there is any disturbance on an acre or more, there is a need to apply for a Land Disturbance Permit from the local governing authority and submit a soil erosion plan prepared by a civil engineer. Once that is done, the plan is submitted to the Soil Conservation Office who reviews and either approves the plan or returns the plan with mark ups as to requested changes. Once approved by the Soil Conservation Service Office the local governing authority then issues a land disturbance permit. The changes buffers along the Marshland, Lake Oconee and Lake Sinclair. The only change that impact Toombs County was the final stabilization which covered what type of material could be used for stabilization and made this area of the ordinance a little more general. These changes do not raise any fees, they do not increase any cost and for the most part, there are not any changes that will affect Toombs County. The board is asked to accept the changes to the existing Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the changes to the existing Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Bids for Backhoe for Public Works Department:**

We received one bid from Caterpillar and three bids from John Deere. The Caterpillar bid was \$ 126,929 with a trade in of \$54,000 in which would have been a net price of \$ 72,929. The best of the three options from John Deere was for a heavy lift John Deere Backhoe for \$91,383 with a trade in of \$ 37,500 with a net price of \$ 53,883. All the bids were submitted with a seven year, seven thousand hours warranty. We recommend the board approve the bid from John Deere in the amount of \$ 53,883 and for SPLOST funds to pay for the purchase.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to approve the bid from John Deere in the amount of \$91,383 with a trade in of \$ 37,500 with a net price of \$ 53,883 for a Heavy lift John Deere Backhoe and for the SPLOST funds to pay for the purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Ratifying Hoods and Exhaust at Toombs Recreation Department:**

The County received an invoice from Williams Development for hoods and exhaust fans, that we had previously requested, for installation at the baseball and football field at the new concession stands at Toombs Recreation Department. The price was for \$9,590 which included two exhaust hood fans, two roof curbs and six new exhaust hood filters. The invoice will be paid will pay with SPLOST funds if approved.

Commissioner Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the payment of the invoice received from Williams Development for two exhaust hood fans, two roof curbs and six new exhaust hood filters at the Toombs Recreation Department for the price of \$ 9,590 and to pay with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of the Purchase of Mower:**

The City of Lyons gave us an old mower that the prison crew has used for several years. This used mower finally stopped working. We had to purchase a replacement last month as an emergency purchase. The 26" x 60' Hustler mower was purchased from Vidalia Small Engine Service in the amount of \$ 6,500. The board is requested to ratify the invoice for this purchase and the invoice will be paid with General Funds.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to ratify this invoice in the amount of \$ 6,500 for the purchase of one Hustler mower from Vidalia Small Engine Service and to approve the payment to be made with General Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Declaring Mower as Excess Equipment and disposing**

Manager Jones explained that the used mower is non repairable. It would be good if we could sell it in a closed bid and if there were no bids, sell it to the scrap yard.

**of the same:** Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to declare the old mower as excess equipment and dispose of it as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids for ALS Ambulance for Toombs-Montgomery EMS:** Manager Jones stated that bids were requested for an Advance Life Support Ambulance. This is for a new Box as well as the new Chevrolet ambulance Chassis, with a diesel engine. Custom Body Works bid was \$ 160,341; Stat-Line Industries \$ 176,914; and FPG (First Priority Group) for \$ 185,000. The Board is asked to approve the lowest bid from Custom Body Works in the amount of \$ 160,341 and to use SPLOST Funds to pay for it. Custom Body Works will also include a Stryker Electric Stretcher (which cost around \$ 16,000). This stretcher is included in the quoted price and the ambulance will be equipped with Liquid Spring Suspension as well.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormack to accept the bid from Custom Body Work in the amount of \$ 160,341 for a new Chevrolet Diesel Chassis, equipped with a Stryker Electric Stretcher and liquid spring suspension. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Nobles asked if the Ambulances were rotated for transport so that one Ambulance would not accumulate more mileage than others. Mr. Drew James replied that the ambulances are rotated for transport out of town. Commissioner Nobles also asked that at one time the service was looking into getting a smaller unit to do transports, what happen to that evaluation? Chairman Sikes explained that the smaller units were gasoline engines and several mechanics has advised us to purchase diesel only because they last longer than the gasoline engines. Mr. Drew James added that the van type ambulances were Type II, these units are top heavy and recently a local county had one of those unit flip over so from the safety standpoint. In the future we may revisit the Van Type II ambulance for non emergency transports.

**Consideration of Bids for Sprinkler System for Toombs County Recreation Baseball Field:** Manager Jones stated that we only received one bid for this Sprinkler System at the Toombs County Recreation Baseball Field. The outfield needs a lot of work; there is no irrigation system on the field and the other is the field is extremely unlevel. The bid proposal was to till and laser level the outfield, install a water sprinkler system and seed the outfield. Progressive Landscaping was the only bid submitted at \$ 14,990. If the Board approves we would like for it to be paid out of SPLOST funds.

Vice-Chairman McCormick made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the bid from Progressive Landscaping in the amount of \$ 14,990 to till and laser level the outfield, install a water sprinkler system and seed the outfield. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Dixon asked where the expansion of US 1 would be? Manager Jones announced that the four lane project of US 1 would go behind the Schools system and behind the Baseball field.

**County Manager Report Financial Report:** Manager Jones reported that LOST collection is down for the Month of June about one percent from last year and down two percent for year-to-date. We are fifty percent through the year and so far the operating expenses are running at 47.4 percent; we are a little under budget expense wise for the year. We are beginning to work on the Budget for the coming year. Each department will be receiving their worksheet for the 2019 Budget.

**Other Miscellaneous Items:** LT. James Rush who is a Nation Guard Officer has asked for us to make this announcement. He is assigned to the US Selective Service System and would like to announce, if possible, there are two vacancies for Toombs County residents on the local Board which represents Toombs, Montgomery, Candler, and Emanuel County. The Board would meet to determine deferment and reclassification in the event Selective Services is activated. If anyone is interested in this, Manager Jones said, he had LT. Rush's contact information and would pass on the information.

DNR is releasing a statement about a non-native type of Lizard that has been identified in our county. This type of species is not native to our area and if anyone sees this type

of lizard, please contact the DNR. The press will be releasing the notice tomorrow that will give more details on what to look for.

**Standing Committee  
Reports:**

None

**Executive Session –  
Real Estate & Legal**

Chairman Sikes stated that there will be a ten minute break taken before the Commission went into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion on real estate and Legal issues.

Commissioner Dixon made a Motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman McCormick to go into Executive session after the ten minute break. Motion carried unanimously.

**Executive Session  
Real Estate:**

Chairman Sikes called the Executive Session to order at 6:50 PM.

After the discussion on real estate and legal issues, Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion to adjourn from the Executive Session.

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

Chairman Sikes open the floor back to the regular session.

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion to adjourn the Regular Commissioners Meeting.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to adjourn the July 17, 2018 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, David Sikes

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