

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- PRESENT:** DAVID SIKES, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, TOMMY ROLLINS, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.
- Call to Order:** Chairman Sikes called the January 15, 2019 meeting to order at 5:40 P.M.
- Invocation:** Commissioner Cason gave the invocation.
- Approve Agenda:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.
- Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes December 18, 2018 Regular Board Meeting:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on December 18, 2018.
- Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Minutes of the December 18, 2018 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes December 21, 2018 Called Board Meeting:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Called Board Meeting held on December 21, 2018.
- Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2018 Called Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Development Authority Report:** Michele Johnson stated that she appreciated the support and the direction that the Commissions gave her and it was a great team; she was so excited to be a part of it. The upcoming weeks for the Chamber on January 17<sup>th</sup> will be the Leadership Toombs- Montgomery (LTM) "Health & Social Services" session; January 31 will be a Ribbon Cutting for Barberitos, 2105 East First St., Vidalia at 4:30 P.M.; February 5<sup>th</sup> Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership (TMYL) "Putting Your Best Foot Forward session; February 7<sup>th</sup> – "I Am the Chamber" Annual Membership Event, Vidalia Community Center, 5:30 p.m. The Development Authority will be holding their Regular Monthly Meeting, Chamber & Development Boardroom at noon. January 29<sup>th</sup> the Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA) Legislative Event, Georgia State Capital. SAVE THE DATE: March 28<sup>th</sup> Community visit to the Port of Savannah. Fall of 2019 – Details will be communicated upon determination for a potential multi-county developer's tour.
- Chairman Sikes stated Michele had done a wonderful job in the first year and was looking forward to the second year.
- Department Reports:** Drew James, EMS Director, came forward and stated there were 574 calls in the month of December and there was 29,339 miles driven. For the year of 2018 the ambulance service answered 7,284 calls in total. The Georgia Trauma Commission Grant offers \$ 864 per ambulance unit, which will be a little over \$ 6000 that we can spend on needed equipment for our department. We will be receiving these funds this month. Thank you for the continued support.
- Public Participation:** Chairman Sikes asked if there were any public participation, if there was please keep it to two minutes or less. Larry Stephens from the Marvin Yancey Volunteer Fire Department came forward and expressed his concerns about getting the ISO rating down in his area of the county. He said they were in compliance with the state but it was getting very difficult to keep the trucks up to date for the ISO inspection. Manager Jones spoke and explained the difficulty in getting anyone to come and do the ISO inspection. Manage Jones stated that he had send a

certified letter to the person that was the oversee of this area back in August. The person signed for the letter and but still has not received any response. Commissioner Nobles asked if Marvin Yancey was the only department having trouble. Manager Jones stated that Marvin Yancey and Cedar Crossing are having the same issues. Chairman Sikes asked Larry Stephens to meet with him at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow morning to further discuss the issue.

**Address by the Chairman:** Chairman Sikes stated that if you are in any type of industry or business or an athlete or a professional and you make it to your hall of fame in whatever profession that may be, it is to be commended and to be honored. Before I read this, gentlemen, I would like a motion for this proclamation for January 24, 2019 as Zack Fowler's day in Toombs County.

Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the proclamation for Zack Fowler Day, January 24, 2019 in Toombs County. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sikes continued by reading the proclamation. Zack came forward and received a copy of the Proclamation.

Mr. Fowler spoke and announced that it was "A Labor of Love, that he loved this community and he believed the principles of this country are built an informed electorate and that is what we try to do.

## RESOLUTION DECLARING JANUARY 24, 2019 AS ZACK FOWLER DAY

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has served his country as a member of the United States Army for twenty-seven years;**

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has served his community in various volunteer capacities as a former board member of the Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, member of Vidalia Rotary Club, charter member of the Boys & Girls Club of Toombs County, former Executive Board Member of the Sweet Onion Animal Protection Society and Senior Warden of the Episcopal Church of the Annunciation of Vidalia;**

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has served as General Manager of Vidalia Communications Corporation since 1993;**

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has led Vidalia Communications Corporation to sixty-five awards for broadcasting excellence from the Georgia Association of Broadcasters since 1994;**

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has worked diligently in keeping the citizens of Toombs County informed of the events in our community;**

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has performed his work in the utmost professional manner exemplifying honesty and integrity;**

**WHEREAS, Zack Fowler has received the ultimate honor in his profession by being inducted into the Georgia Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame this January 24, 2019;**

By the powers vested in me as Chairman of the Toombs County Board of Commissioners, I do hereby honor and salute the accomplishments of Zack Fowler and

**recognize his deeds throughout his career and declare January 24, 2019 as Zack Fowler Day and confer all honors and benefits to him.**

**So approved by the Toombs County Board of Commissioners this 15<sup>th</sup> Day of January 2019.**

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**David Sikes, Chairman**

<b>Oath of office for the Elected Commissions:</b>	Chairman Sikes asked Judge Larry Threlkeld to come forward and do the honors of swearing in for Commissioner Alfred Cason and Commissioner Tommy Rollins.
<b>Consideration of 2019 Beer and Wine Licenses:</b>	Manager Jones stated that there were three Beer and Wine Licenses in the need of approval. Each of these businesses has met the requirements needed to receive next year's renewal. Please vote on the individually.
<b>Normantown Grocery -</b>	Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion on Normantown Grocery. Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the renewal Beer and Wine Licenses for Normantown Grocery. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>John's Country Junction -</b>	Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion on John's Country Junction. Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the renewal Beer and Wine Licenses for John's Country Junction. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Country Pantry -</b>	Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion on Country Pantry. Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the renewal Beer and Wine Licenses for Country Pantry. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Consideration of Committee Appointments:</b>	Chairman Sikes made the following committee appointments: Roads and Bridges would be Darriel Nobles and Alfred Cason; Recreation would be Alfred Cason and Wendell Dixon; Landfill will be Darriel Nobles and Tommy Rollins; Public Safety will be Alfred Cason and Wendell Dixon; Finance and Accounting will be Wendell Dixon and Tommy Rollins; Policy and Procedures will be Tommy Rollins and Darriel Nobles. Those are our six Committees and the appointments for the year 2019. Wendell Dixon will be the appointed Vice-Chairman of the Commission. Gentlemen, thank you for serving.
<b>Approval of Submitting CDBG Application for Drainage Improvements for Emanuel Circle and Victoria Circle &amp; Lake Drive:</b>	Manager Jones requested the board to approve the submission of the CDBG grant for drainage improvements for Emanuel Circle and Victoria Circle and Lake Drive.  Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the submission of the CDBG grant application for drainage improvements for Emanuel Circle, Victoria Circle and Lake Drive. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Consideration of Adoption of Resolution on Probate Judge's Vital Records Fees:</b>	Manager Jones stated that the resolution on Probate Judge's Vital Records Fees has been asked to be revised to reflect \$ 16,000 to be retained by the Probate Judge for the operation of his office.  Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to revise the Resolution on Probate Judge's Vital Records Fees to reflect \$ 16,000 to be retained by the Probate Judge for the operation of his office. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Consideration of</b>	Manager Jones stated that this agreement would allow the County to use their

**Intergovernmental Service Agreement with Toombs County Board of Education:**

vacant well to provide water to the Baseball field at Toombs Central, which would irrigate the baseball field, which has been re-established this past year. The Toombs Board of Education has already approved this intergovernmental agreement and we would like for the board to approval as well.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Intergovernmental Service Agreement with the Toombs County Board of Education. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report:**

**Financial Report:**

Manager Jones stated the LOST was up from December 2017 by .29 percent. For the year 2018 LOST collections were down 1.54 percent. Overall, 2018 County wide subject to sales to LOST was up 2.22 percent from 2017. The maintenance and Operation budget, 2018 revenues were 5 percent above budget; expenses were 4.5 percent under budget. The auditors will be here in March and they will present the financial report from their audit.

**Up-Date Band III – TSPLOST Projects:**

Manager Jones stated that the Georgia Department of Transportation has informed us that we can proceed with three of the four project for Band III. We can let these projects in October 2019. These are widening and re-surfacing Five Points Road, widening and re-surfacing New Normantown Road and re-surfacing a section of Lyons-Center Road.

**Miscellaneous:**

Manager Jones stated that the lights would be replaced at the jail. Toombs County has an agreement with Georgia Power to replace the LED lights at the jail, they will maintain those lights. The energy saving will pay for this in just twelve months.

Manager Jones stated this week starts the 8<sup>th</sup> week of River Flood Warning for Toombs County. This past Monday afternoon the River Flood Warning for the Ochoopee River was lifted for the first time in seven weeks. The Altamaha River Warning should be lifted by the end of the week. All the rain we have experienced has caused a lot of road issues and he appreciated the Roads Department on all of their hard work in restoring them back to good condition.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Commissioners Comments: None**

Chairman Sikes stated there would be a 10 minute break before we go into Executive Session for discussion of Legal Real Estate.

Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to go into Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

After the discussion over Real Estate, Chairman Sikes asked there was a motion to adjourn from the Executive Session.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to adjourn from the Executive Session at 6:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sikes open the doors back to the public and made the statement that there was no action taken on the Real Estate that required a motion.

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion for adjournment for the Regular Board Meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

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David Sikes, Chairman

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