TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Courtroom A

August 20, 2019 5:30 PM

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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

**Call to Order:** Chairman Sikes called the August 20, 2019 meeting to order at 5:31 P.M.

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

Chairman Sikes announced that Commissioner Nobles could not be here at this meeting because he had surgery last week. We ask that you keep Commissioner Nobles and his family in your prayers. He is doing great, but is taking some time to recover.

**Approve Agenda:** Chairman Sikes asked for approval of the Agenda.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to amend the agenda and add the Consideration of a Ground Lease Agreement between Toombs County Board of Commissioners and Toombs County Development Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the

**July 16, 2019 Regular** Regular Board Meeting held on July 16, 2019.

**Board Meeting:**

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Minutes of the July 16, 2019 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the

**July 16, 2019 Executive** Executive Minutes for July 16, 2019.

**Board Meeting:**

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dixon to approve the Minutes of the July 16, 2019 Executive Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Development Authority Michele Johnson** stated the Chamber Calendar was as followed: Leadership

**Report:** Toombs-Montgomery (LTM) Orientation is scheduled for August 22nd and 23rd. There are eighteen members in the class. Class members are: Travis Absher; Carly Benton; Julie Busby; Stacy Cheshire; Sean Flanagan; Grady Hart, Jr.; Samantha Marsh; Jen Martinez; Britt McDade; Nick Metzler; Sandi Mills; Kareem Owens; Brian Sikes; Scott Stephens; Kris Stovall; Ivette Torres; Barry Waller and Trent Williams. There will be a Ribbon Cutting on September 10, 2019 at 4 PM, 406 Jackson Street, Vidalia for Brown Realty Company. Toombs-Montgomery Youth Leadership (TMTL) Orientation is scheduled for September 12, 2019. There are twenty-four class members. Toombs-Montgomery Business Expo will be held on October 10, 2019 at 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM at the Vidalia Community Center. Regular Monthly Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 8 AM in the Chamber & Development Authority boardroom. The Development Authority’s Calendar is as followed: Annual Coastal Georgia Good News Gathering sponsored by Georgia Power will be held August 28, 2019 in Darien GA. Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA) Annual Meeting will be held on September 18th – 20th in Savannah. Georgia Chamber of Commerce (GACOC) Rural Prosperity Summit will be held October 1st – 2nd in Tifton GA. The Regular Monthly Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 12 noon in the Chamber & Development Authority boardroom. Michele Johnson and Debbie Evans will represent the Chamber & Development Authority on the Southeastern Early College and Career Academy (SECCA) Board of Directors beginning August 2019.

**Department Reports: Drew James**, EMS Director, for the month of July there were 601 calls for service and 26,150 miles placed on the fleet of our ambulances. Our public relations started out as a joint partnership with Vidalia Fire and over twenty Organizations and Departments coming together to raise awareness and promote safety through-out our County. There were six events that our department participated in and we either check vital signs or taught CPR to over four hundred people. We felt that the “Beat the Heat” Campaign was a big success.

**Public Participation:** None

**Resolutions for William** Senator Blake Tillery stated he was glad to be a part of the Commissioners

**“Skipper” Smith and** Meeting. Senator Tillery commended the Commission for helping him get

**Bobby Smith:** startedin his public life.The professionalism the Commission brings and the ability to include others in the process and at the same time remain level headed is second to none. The reason I am present at this meeting is to honor a set of brothers, the Smith brothers. “Skipper”, William Ralph “Skipper” Smith, we had to add “Skipper” so people would know who you are. Senator Tillery asked Sheriff Kight to join him to present Skipper Smith with a Resolution that was presented in the Georgia Senate honoring him upon his retirement. Skipper served with honor and distinction from December 2001 to January 2019. Senator Tillery read the Resolution that was given to Skipper to the audience.

Skipper Smith stated, “I would like to thank everyone for making my job so easy, Sheriff Kight, all of the Commission, my former Chairman Tillery, and for my family that has supported me and my Lord and Savior for keeping my health up. Thank you very much.”

Senator Tillery said that he worked until he was 74 years old and we are very proud for the service he provided to Toombs County.

Senator Tillery stated, the second Smith Brother is Mr. Bobby Ray Smith. Mr. Bobby was my Dare Teacher and has been at it for a while. Senator Tillery asked Sheriff Kight to join him to present Bobby Ray Smith with a Resolution that was presented in the Georgia Senate honoring him upon his retirement. I appreciate everything Bobby Ray had done for our community. He is the first person you would see as a fifth grader, running around the stadium stands that would ask you to leave from under the stands and you really wanted him to be the one to ask you to leave because he was actually very nice about that. Senator Tillery read the Resolution that was given to Bobby Ray to the audience. Senator Tillery explained that Bobby Ray Smith has served thirty years and that he may serve thirty one but he is waiting to see if Mrs. Smith was going to retire so he may not make it to the thirty first year.

Bobby Ray Smith stated, “First of all I gave the honor to God, he is the head of my life. To my wife, children, my sisters, my brothers, the guys from Fort Valley has been an inspiration and to the general public, thank you for letting me be that officer who let me hound and take care of your kids. It’s has been a great ride and I have enjoyed it. My brother-in-laws are in enforcement and I love them to death. Sheriff, thank you for letting me do my job. Councilmen, each and each one of you, Mr. John you have put up with me, Helen, and Mr. Terry thank you so much. “

Senator Tillery Thanks the Chairman for allowing him to present the Resolutions to both Skipper and Bobby Ray.

Chairman Sikes stated, “Senator Tillery you are a class act. It is wonderful to stop and recognize people for what they have done and their accomplishments.”

**Consideration of**  Manager Jones stated this is Ground Lease for the existing Department of **the Ground Lease** Family and Children Services Building. This is a part of the plan to remove the **between Toombs County** existing building the Department is housed in and the construction of a new **Board of Commissioners** building behind the existing building. Once this is approved, the Development **And Toombs County** Authority will get a Ground Lease to the contractor that is building the new **Development Authority:**  building and to obtain a Lease with the State of Georgia. We ask that the Board approve this Ground Lease.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to  approve the Ground Lease Agreement between Toombs County Board of Commissioners and Toombs County Development Authority for the new building that will be constructed for the Department of Family and Children Services in Toombs County. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated the next item is the ratification of a change order to add

**Ratification of Change** Kelly Collins Road and Eastwood Subdivision. The original contract is with Dykes

**orders for Kelly Collins** Grassing. The Kelly Collins Road is an additional $ 98,000 and Eastwood **Road and Eastwood** Subdivision is an additional $ 65,000 and will be paid with TSPLOST funds.

**Subdivision:**

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the change orders for Kelly Collins Road in the amount of $ 98,000 and Eastwood Subdivision $ 65,000, paid with TSPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones stated that the Memorandum of Understanding defines the **Memorandum of** duties and responsibilities of the Emergency Management Agency and Toombs **Understanding for** County Fire Department. We are asking the Board to approve this MOU.

**Toombs County**

**Emergency Management** Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to

**Agency and Toombs** approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Toombs County Emergency **County Fire Department:** Management Agency and Toombs County Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of** Manager Jones statedDarriel Nobles hasserved in this capacity in the past and

**Appointment of County** recommended that he continuedto be the delegate to the ACCG Legislative

**Delegate to the ACCG** Leadership Conference.

**Legislative Leadership**

**Conference:** Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dixon to appoint Darriel Nobles for the County Delegate to the ACCG Legislative Leadership Conference. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report**

**Financial Report:** Manager Jones stated the Maintenance and Operation Expense is still under budget for the year. Revenue for E911 is still above budget for the year and expenses are running approximately 10% under budget. SPLOST revenues are still showing strong increases in July 2019, it was 11.9% higher than it was in July 2018. Landfill’s revenue is up 7% over budget and expenses are approximately 1 1/2 % under budget. The County’s in-take is 3,900 tons above last year at this time. EMS revenue is on budget for the year and expenses are 1% under budget. As of July 31, 2019 it seems that we are doing very well.

**Status Date Up-Date** The improvement on Tomlin Road from Johnson Corner to the Convenient

**on 2019 Projects:** Center has been completed; the Road Construction Department has been working on that for the past two weeks. This was the only Convenient Center on a dirt road and we were having issues on that road when it rained. The improvement should take care of the problems that had been reported.

**GDOT Pre-Construction** In the Commissioners packet you have a recap on some of the projectsthat were planned for this year. Of the twenty items listed, fifteen have either been completed or being completed, moved to another year or the project was terminated all together. We are moving along on all of the projected projects for the year.

**Meeting on Green-** In your packet you have the GDOT pre-construction conference which will be

**Tippett Road Bridge** held August 29, 2019. This will give details on the bridge replacement on Green

**Project:** Tippett Road. They should start construction on that road soon. The bridge should be completed no later than March 31,2020.

**Other Miscellaneous** In the near future, the commission will be voting on the millage rate for next

**Items:** year. The Ad has been running in the paper this week. We expect the millage rate should not change significantly from last year.

The monthly progress report with the Wellness program is in your packet. Everything is doing well with that and please with their progress.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Commissioners**

**Comments:** None

Chairman Sikes stated, “Smith Brothers, thank you for all that you have done for us and our County. We appreciate Senator Tillery stopping by tonight and doing the recognition and for being a part of our team and our community. We thank you very much. Senator Tillery was instrumental with the DFCS building as well, helping us get the funds and moving up on the list from seventeen to number two in the state and that is a huge deal and we’re extremely proud and I know they will be as well.”

**Adjournment:**  Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to adjourn from the Regular Board Meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

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David Sikes, Chairman Helen Harris, County Clerk