

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 March Regular Board 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 Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on February 15, 2022.

**February 15, 2022
Regular Board Meeting:**

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the minutes from February 15, 2022 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Development Authority
Report:**

Michele Johnson was in Tifton at a Development Meeting and could not make it to the Board Meeting although she did send a report of activities and meetings as follows: Rural Reimagined “Entrepreneur Lite” Workshop – Tuesday, March 15th, Tifton Georgia. Georgia Logistics Summit – Wednesday, March 16th, Macon. Toombs County Development Authority (TCDA) Regular Monthly Meeting will be held at the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom, 2805 East First St., Vidalia on Thursday, March 17th at 12 noon with zoom option. Greater Vidalia Youth Leadership Graduation – First Baptist Church in Lyons, Monday, March 21st at 6:00 PM. TIA Connecting Region 9 Presentation to Vidalia Kiwanis Club – Tuesday, March 22nd at 12 noon. TIA 2.0 Connecting Region 9 Presentation to Vidalia Rotary Club will be held on Wednesday, March 23rd at 12:00 noon. ConnectHER – Vidalia Community Center held on Thursday, March 24th at 5:30 PM Greater Vidalia Chamber Board Meeting will be held at the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom 2805 East First St., Vidalia on Monday, March 28th at 11:30 AM. Leadership Greater Vidalia “Graduation” Session will be held at Durden Cabin, Partin Park, Lyons on Friday April 15th.

Department Reports:

Brian Sikes, Vidalia Fire Chief, read an appreciation letter that was written to the Commission for housing their employees and equipment temporarily after an EF0 tornado damaged struck their fire station located at 1415 Aimwell Extension. The tornado occurred on January 2, 2022 with wind speeds reaching up to 75 miles an hour. Immediately after the storm, a safe location was provided for our employees and equipment at the EMS/EMA Building allowed them to remain in service and provide valuable services to our citizens of our county.

Drew James, Director of EMS, stated that he was proud to recognize three members of the EMS team. Two employees were promoted to Lieutenants were Paramedic Chason Cravey and Paramedic Jordan Ellis. Promoted to Captain was Paramedic Brock Williams. Each employee was pinned by a family member and Judge Tina Lindsey did the swearing-in of all three employees for their new appointed jobs.

Chairman Sikes stated, “On behalf of the Commission and the County Manager, I hope of you realize how much we care about you all through examples of the building that was built, I hope you know what you mean to us. We look at the safety of our citizens as the highest calling for our community and we are super grateful for you guys.”

Commissioner Dixon shared a conversation that he had with Superintendent Garrett Wilcox that recognized the EMS Staff for how well they took care of one of the players on the Vidalia Baseball Team who was injured pretty bad. Mr. Wilcox complemented the staff on how well they handled the injured player and Commissioner Dixon said he appreciated his call.

Lynn Moore, EMA Director, stated how happy he was with the new building that was built for their use. The sprinkler system is being installed this week and with the completion of the landscaping, our building is complete.

Public Participation: None

Consideration of Approval of Renewal of Right of Way Mowing Contract: Manager Jones stated this contract is an annual contract and the price has not changed since last year's contract price. We are pleased with the work that they do. Management recommended the board to approve this contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the renewal of the Right of Way Moving Contract and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Proposal for VTC and Streaming in Courtroom B: Manager Jones stated currently we only have VTC and Streaming capability in Courtroom A. COVID had created a backlog for the last two years, the courts have asked for us to consider this purchase. The cost of this purchase is \$ 19,263.56, to be paid with General Budget under Courthouse Expenses. All of this equipment will be transferred to the new Courthouse. Management recommended the board to approve this purchase.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the VTC and Streaming System for Courtroom B at a net cost of \$ 19,263.56; to be paid with General Budget on Courthouse Expenses and to authorize the Chairman to sign for purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Purchase of Vehicle for Toombs County Fire: Manager Jones stated this vehicle will replace the fire vehicle that was disposed of in January of this year. The proposed purchase was for one (1) 2011 Chevrolet KTA Tahoe SUV 4D; VIN number 1GNSK2E0XBR175725 in the amount of \$ 10,577.25 and to be paid with General Fund Fire Expenses.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to ratify the purchase of one (1) 2011 Chevrolet KTA Tahoe SUV 4D; VIN number 1GNSK2E0XBR175725 in the amount of \$ 10,577.25. This purchase will be paid with General Fund Fire Expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Amendment to the Toombs County Defined Benefit Plan: Manager Jones stated the Resolution presented needed to be approved by the board. This is similar to Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Rollins to accept the Resolution to Amend the ACCG Defined Benefit Plan for the Toombs County Employees and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Ratifying of Lease for Mobile Chiller System: Manager Jones stated about a month ago the 1963 HVAC system that cools the Courthouse failed and both Trane and our consultant urged us not to put any more money into the old system. Trane had a Mobile unit in the state of Pennsylvania that could be rented. A lease was prepared for the rental unit and the unit was delivered this past Wednesday. The lease is in the amount of \$ 11,200 for installation and the monthly rental rate of \$ 8,600 per month for every month the system is needed. Trane will be responsible for any maintenance needed during this lease. Management recommended the board to ratify this lease and payment will be paid with General Fund under Courthouse Repairs & Maintenance.

Vice-Chairman Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to ratify the Lease for a Mobile Chiller System from Trane in the amount of \$ 11,200 for installation and lease in the amount of \$ 8,600 per month for every month the system is needed. This expense will be paid with General Fund under Courthouse Repairs & Maintenance. Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Report : Manager Jones stated the Sales tax continues to grow. February 2022 receipts were nine percent above February of 2021. Maintenance & Operation YTD
Financial Report: Expenses are six percent under budget. EMS Expenses are five percent under budget.

Miscellaneous: We are still on schedule with the Courthouse; we still plan to start moving into the new court house in January 2023; with a completion date of May or June 2023. The completion date for the Ross Bowen Complex Building is April 2022. The request for bid for the civil work for the Convenient Center on Vidalia Cedar Crossing Road, replacing the old Petross site and the new fire station as well is due Wednesday, March 23rd at 11:00 AM.

Standing Committee Reports:

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Cason wished Chairman David Sikes a Happy Birthday.

Adjournment: Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

David Sikes, Chairman

Attest: _____
Helen Harris, County Clerk