

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: **DAVID SIKES, ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, 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.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept 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 21, 2023.

February 21, 2023

Regular Board Meeting:

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dixon to approve the minutes from February 21, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Development Authority Report:

Michele Johnson stated the ConnectHER event will be held on Thursday, March 23rd at 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM, Vidalia Community Center, 107 Old Airport Road, Vidalia, GA. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Ellianos Coffee, Wednesday, March 29th at 4:00 PM - 3105-B East First Street, Vidalia. Greater Vidalia Chamber (GVC) Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30th at 11:30 AM at the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom, 2805 East First Street, Vidalia. Cultivating rural Entrepreneurship and Transforming Economies (C.R.E.A.T.E.) Cohort Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 11th – Wednesday, April 12th in Macon, GA. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Dr. Mark and Tonya Spivey Pubic Library, 610 Jackson Street, Vidalia, GA- Thursday, April 13th at 10:00 AM. Leadership Greater Vidalia (LGV) Graduation will be held Friday, April 14th. Groundbreaking Ceremony for Greater Vidalia Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, 204 East first Street, Vidalia, GA will be help on Monday, April 17th at 11:00 AM.

Department Reports:

Drew James, Director of EMS, stated there were 485 calls for service for the month of February. Captain Brock Williams was selected for the Georgia EMS Leadership Program. This program is a four week program with four modules to complete. The department has been working on a mass-casualty in preparation for the Vidalia Onion Festival.

Public Participation:

None

Consideration of Renewal of ROW Mowing & Maintenance Agreement with K & A Mowing:

Manager Jones stated this would be the third year renewing this contract. We have been very pleased with the quality of workmanship shown in the past two years. The original cost has stayed consistent with the exception of the fuel surcharge that was approved last year. Management recommended the Board to approve this agreement with K & A Mowing.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve and authorize Chairman Sikes to sign the agreement with K & A Moving. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of
Addendum to Existing
Contract for Paving
Hutcheson Road:**

Manager John Jones stated in the packet there was a proposal based on the existing CDBG Grant pricing for the paving of Victoria Circle and Lake Drive. Hutcheson Road is a short dirt road in which we have gotten good prices and because of its proximity of Victoria Circle and Lake Drive; that dead ends into a small mobile home park. Management recommended the Board to approve the proposal of \$20,938 and to pay with TSPLOST Funds.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Addendum on the existing Contract with McLendon Enterprises for paving Hutcheson Road and to be paid with TSPLOST funds in the amount of \$20,938. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of
Proposal to Purchase
Mack Truck with State
Contract Sourcewell:**

Manager Jones stated the copy of the proposal was included in the packet from National Auto Fleet. This is part of the Sourcewell, which is part of the State of Georgia Contract and satisfies all bidding requirements for this type of purchase. Currently the county has two Mack dump trucks that need replacing. Delivery time should be during the 3rd Quarter of this year. Management requested the Board to approve the purchase of two of these Mack Trucks on the State Contract with Sourcewell in the amount of \$401,064.58 paid with SPLOST funds.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the proposal to purchase two Mack Trucks on a State Contract with Sourcewell in the amount of \$401,064.58 and to be paid with SPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of
Approval of
Memorandum of
Understanding
between Silcon Ranch
and Toombs County
Development
Authority/Toombs
County
Commissioners:**

The Development Authority is requesting the Board of Commissioners, the Board of Assessors and the Tax Commissioner to sign an Acknowledgment of this Memorandum and agrees to its provisions for Silcon Ranch Corporation, which is a solar project. Management recommended the Board to authorize the Chairman to sign the acknowledgement.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to authorize the Chairman to sign the acknowledgement of the Memorandum of Understanding between Silcon Ranch Corporation and Toombs County Development Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of
Approval of Resolution
Agreeing to New Opioid
Settlement Agreement:**

Manager Jones stated the proposed Opioid Settlement Agreement and a letter received for the Law Firm representing Toombs County's interest and the Resolution to accept the offer was included in the packet. Management recommended the Board approve this Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Vice-Chairman Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution Agreement to the New Opioid Settlement. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Manager Report
Financial Report:**

Manager Jones stated expenses for the M & O Budget is currently 4% under budget through February 2023. E911 Fees are on budget and expenses are 5% under budget, Solid Waste Fees are on budget and expenses are as well. EMS Fees are 3% under budget and expenses are 3% under budget as well. After two straight months of decline in Sales tax we saw a 7.99% increase in LOST compared to February 2022. Hopefully, the two previous months were just a "cooling off" period and the steady increase we have seen for the last two years will continue. Year-to-date we are 1.13% less than in 2022.

Miscellaneous:

Health Insurance – We continue to see improvement in our overall claims expense. Particularly in the Prescription expenses as we aggressively utilize the various government programs that some of our employees qualify for and manufacturer coupons and international drug pricing for certain high maintenance drugs. Our partners have been extremely helpful in combating these costs with these different programs. Monday, March 20, 2023 Manager

Jones had the yearly review with the Bond Rating Agency and everything checked out okay.

Standing Committee

Reports:

Commissioners

Comments:

Adjournment:

Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

David Sikes, Chairman

Attest: _____
Helen Harris, County Clerk