

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- PRESENT:** ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, TOMMY ROLLINS, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.
- Call to Order:** Vice-Chairman Nobles called February Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
- Invocation:** Commissioner Cason gave the Invocation.
- Approve Agenda:** Vice-Chairman Nobles asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to accept the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes:** Vice-Chairman Nobles asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on January 16, 2024.
January 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting: Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the minutes from January 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Development Authority Report:** Michele Johnson stated the Greater Vidalia Chamber (GVC) Regular Meeting Monthly Meeting – Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom, 2805 East First Street, Vidalia, on Thursday, February 22th at 11:30 AM. Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (GACCE) Staff Development Conference on Wednesday, March 6th through Friday, March 8th in Columbus, Georgia. Leadership Greater Vidalia (LGV) Economic Development Session on Thursday, March 14th. Toombs County Development Authority (TCDA) Regular Monthly Meeting will be held at the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom, 2805 East First Street, Vidalia, Thursday, March 21st at 12:00 Noon. Mandy Britt has been recently hired as the Director of Entrepreneur Development. She will handle everything related to the facility and the entrepreneur program that goes there. Mandy was with the Regional Commission and has a Master’s Degree in Public Administration. Commissioner Dixon also said Mandy had worked for Blake Tillery’s Office as well. Vice-Chairman Nobles complemented Michele and stated that she was a hard working lady and this county is going to develop because of you.
- Department Reports:** Lynn Moore, EMA Director stated the Drew James had asked him to announce that he was at a meet and greet for a new Cardiologist at the hospital. EMA has been hosting FEMA for the past month; they are assessing all the damage from the hurricane Idalia in surrounding twenty-three counties. Tomorrow there will be a meeting in Reidsville, with Area Five and Area Eight discussing the upcoming hurricane season. The department is preparing for Hatch Plant MS1 Drill that is required for the Hospital. The EMS/EMA Building is proud to announce that the flag pole was moved from the old Courthouse yard to their building and they are very proud to see the flag flying at their facility.
- Public Participation:** None

**Consideration of Request
to Close the East Portion
Dee Mosley Road:**

Manager Jones stated in the packet there was a copy of the request from Marshall Mosely requesting the board to consider closing this road. Currently the US #1 By-Pass Project is cutting this road in half and Dee Mosley will dead end at this By-Pass. This is the East side of Mosley Road beginning at US1 and ending where the By-Pass will be and end at that point. Also in the packet there is a copy of OCGA 32-7-2 that addresses the procedure for abandoning a public road. Also in the packet was a map of the proposed closing and the Impact Statements from Toombs County Board of Education, Bus Route Coordinator, Toombs County Road Supervisor, the EMS Director and Code Enforcement. The board will review these impact statements and then determine whether or not the road serves a public purpose. If the board sees fit to proceed to the next step, all adjacent land owners would be given notice; signs would be placed at the road notifying the public of potential closure and date, time and place of the public hearing to express their concerns about the closing. Advertisement would be placed for two weeks in the legal organ, The Vidalia Advance, for the public hearing, this all will be before the next board meeting at which time the board will consider a vote to close and abandoned. The county has only a prescriptive easement on this road where as the county maintains the road but does not have title to it.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon that the road does not serve a public purpose and to proceed forward in the process of closing the East portion of Dee Mosley Road. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Request
to Close the West Portion
of Dee Mosley Road:**

Manager Jones stated in the packet there was a copy of the request from William Clark, Sr., Charles and Elizabeth Shaw requesting the board to consider closing this portion of Dee Mosley Road. The steps described in the consideration of Request to close the East Portion of Dee Mosley Road also applies to the request. This is from Lyons-Center Road to the US#1 By-Pass. The impact statements have been received on this portion of the road and states this has minimum impact on delivering services in which they provide. Again, the board will consider moving forward with the next process of closing this road.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins that the road does not serve a public purpose and to proceed forward in the process of closing the West portion of Dee Mosley Road. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of the
Request to Close
Niederriter Lane:**

Manager Jones stated in the packet there was a copy of the letter from Mr. Niederriter requesting that Niederriter Lane be closed along with some pictures he submitted. The steps described in the consideration of the request to close the East and West Portion of Dee Mosley Road also applies to the request. The impact statement for Niederriter Lane have been received and all have stated this has minimum impact on delivering services in which they provide. The county has only a prescriptive easement on this road where as the county maintains the road but does not retain the title to it. In the event this road is closed there is nothing else for the county to do and the property would automatically revert to the land owner. The board will consider moving forward with the next process of closing this road.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon that the road does not serve a public purpose and to proceed forward in the process of closing Niederriter Lane. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of
Contract for HVAC**

Manager Jones stated the county received two options on maintenance. The HVAC unit cost 1.7 million dollars and this is a five year maintenance contract.

Maintenance for the Toombs County Government Center from Manufacturer Trane:

The first option would require the county to change all the filters and the second option would have Trane change the filters as well as all required maintenance at a five year cost of \$55,029. Management requested the board to approve the contract for five years with filter changes included and to be paid from the Maintenance Budget in the General Fund.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the second Proposal presented in the packet for the 5-year cost of \$55,029 and to pay from the Maintenance Budget in the General Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Service Agreement with ALSCO for Linens & Uniforms for EMS:

Manager Jones stated this is an annual service agreement that is approved each year. They take care of all the linens and uniforms for the EMS Department. Management recommended the board to approve the agreement from ALCO.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Chairman to sign the annual proposal from ALSCO for Linens & Uniforms which will be paid with EMS's Operational Budget Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Appointment of Local Government Voting Delegate for GOSAC and RAC Slate:

Manager Jones stated as everyone is aware that there has been legal awards given to states, counties and municipalities as a part of the vast Opioid settlement with numerous entities will receive payments; thus far Toombs County has received \$85,626 of these settlements that went directly to local jurisdictions. The State is going to allocate a portion and their settlement to local jurisdictions in this plan the participants are the 159 counties, 107 cities, 22 Sheriff's Departments, 12 Hospitals/Hospital Authorities, 16 Community Service Boards and 1 School District that was included. Each of these identities needs to select members to the two committees. The organizational structure: (1) The Trustees Kevin Tanner, Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) and (2) Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission (GOSAC) and (3) Regional Advisory Councils (RAC). There are five Regional Advisory Councils (RAC) in the state. They are based on the boundaries of the DBHDD Regions. There will be one Georgia Opioid Advisory Commission (GOSAC). Each local government will have one vote. Toombs County along with other counties (and what cities that are part of the settlement), will select three (and only three) members to the GOSAC. The RACs will have at least three but no more than seven members. This is an opportunity to allow our area to have access to this money. There are restriction on how these funds are spent once received and the committee will decide what is the best way to apply these funds within our county. By the 15th of March the form whereby the county names our "Voting Delegate" needs to be completed and submitted. There can only be one Voting Delegate and they must attend and be present in order to vote.

This was tabled for future review on the consideration of the best voting delegate.

County Manager Report Financial Report:

Manager Jones stated in the Commissioners Packet there was a copy of the SPLOST sales tax for the month that shows it was up by 4.8 percent compared to last year.

Miscellaneous:

Toombs County has two fire departments, Cedar Crossing Vol. Fire Department that covers two districts; Cedar Crossing and McNatt Falls and Toombs County Vol. Fire Department that covers the other districts. For the year of 2023 there were a total of 690 fire calls in Toombs County in which 250 of those calls were

handled by our Vol. Fire Departments. In January there were 70 fire calls and our Vol. Fire Departments responded to 30 of those calls. Comprehensive Plan update meetings are being held. This plan is developed with community input and is required by the Department of Community Affairs, watch for emails for reminders of the meeting dates and time. In the packet there was the monthly update on our Wellness Program. There was 106 follow up coaching sessions from last month. EOC Training room located at the EMS/EMA Building in Vidalia is being use by a lot of organizations. There is a summary of the Health Insurance as well as the summary for the Workmen's Comp Claims in the packet.

Standing Committee

Reports: None

Commissioners Comments: Commissioner Rollins would like to thank the Road Crew for exemplary work on the roads after the heavy rains we received. Manager Jones added the Ohoopee River is expected to crest Thursday morning and the Altamaha is expected to crest Monday. Most of Toombs County received six inches of rain.

Adjournment: Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Darriel Nobles, Vice-Chairman

Attest: _____
Helen Harris, County Clerk