

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 May 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 Vice-Chairman Nobles to accept the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on April 16, 2024.
April 16, 2024
Regular Board Meeting: Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Nobles to approve the minutes from April 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Development Authority Report:** **Michele Johnson**, A couple of ribbon cuttings will be coming up, on May 30th will be at Coney's Supreme Detailing, LLC ,203 McIntosh St, Vidalia at 4:00 PM There will be a ribbon cutting at The Dahlia on June 6th at 4:00 PM, 200 South West Main Street in Vidalia on June 6th. The Chamber will be closed for Memorial Day Holiday. Toombs County Development Authority (TCDA) Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20th at 12 Noon, in the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom, 2805 East First Street, Vidalia. Greater Vidalia Chamber (GVC) Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 27th, 11:30 AM in the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom, 2805 East First Street, Vidalia. School is out and summer is here we are trying to make things scheduled somewhat thin where everyone can enjoy their vacation schedule. Hopefully we will be moving into our brand new building downtown Vidalia very soon.

Vice-Chairman Nobles asked Michele what was the time table for Oxford's Expansion? Michele stated hopefully within a year their building a 561,000 square foot building; approximately 40 new jobs with their expansion with above average pay.

Commissioner Dixon stated he had been on the of Authority Board for ten years and Michele is doing a wonderful job; it's not always about getting in new industry in our county but the expansion for the existing businesses, such as, Tumi and Oxford. Would you tell us of the expansions that have occurred in our County? Michele replied:
(2022) East Jordan Plastics - \$44,1000,000 new investment/80 new jobs
(2024) Oxford – Local Facility Relocation & Expansion - \$145,115,000 new investment/109 existing jobs + 40 new jobs
(2024) Shinsung Petrochemical - \$11,200,000 new investment/35 new jobs
(2024) Tumi – Local Facility Expansion - \$17,670,000 new investment/112 existing jobs + 121 new jobs

Department Reports:

Drew James, Director of EMS, stated on the EMS side calls for service for April of this year was 607 calls. There were 131 calls in Montgomery County last month. The call volume for Montgomery is usually 85 and 95 calls per month so we are monitoring this increase of calls just from a resource stand point. During the Onion Festival there were fourteen patient contacts during the onion festival, and thankfully none of those was life threatening. Thanks go out to the Commission for giving us the appropriate resources that our department needed to cover the festival. Lieutenant Jordan Ellis and Carey Page from the hospital put together a phenomenal in service going into the festival for a mask casualty plan for the hospital and the EMS Dept. Toombs County EMA feed all of the first responders for both days at the air show. The Vidalia City Fire Department, Toombs County Fire Department and first responders, Tarrytown Volunteer Fire Department and Southeastern Tech, which we has a new partnership with their Nursing Program which helped us man our first aid station. The other group is the EMT Program with the students that is present in the audience and their instructor and training Officer Jordan Ellis. This week, as the 50th year of celebrating EMS week, our motto is honoring our past and forging our future. The luncheon that was held today, we were fortunate to have two legends in our community one being Glynn Taylor and the other Tim Harris which came by the station. They are the epitome of EMS for our community they have impacted many people during their career and not just from a public standpoint but for medics like me standing at this podium if it wasn't for them. The second part of that motto is forging the future. Drew asked for the student at Southeastern Tech to stand and recognize them for helping with festival and doing clinical and we wish the best on their EMS careers. We would like to thank the Commission for the F-250 Truck; it was a critical life line for the festival and was used during calls from the tornado. We used the truck to go on calls for people that needed oxygen and keep our ambulances in service for high priority calls. Commissioner Dixon asked the progress on the trailer and Drew replied, the manufactory that is building the trailer are very detailed and it is taking longer than we thought but we should be hearing soon the finished date and we will be glad to go and pick up from the manufactory as soon as we get a finished date.

Resolution Resolution Proclaiming May 19th – May 25th, 2024 as EMS Week in Toombs County; 50th Anniversary Nationwide of EMS Week:

Chairman David Sikes read the Resolution Proclaiming May 19th – May 25th, 2024 as EMS Week in Toombs County. This year is the 50th anniversary nationwide of EMS Week.

Commission Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the Resolution Proclaiming May 19th – May 25th, 2024 as EMS Week in Toombs County; 50th Anniversary of EMS Week. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Participation:

None

Consideration of Request to Close a Portion of J. L. Thompson Road:

Manager Jones stated in the Commissioners Packet was a copy of the procedure on closing or closing a portion of a road. The Commissioner's Office received a request from Jason Herndon, Bruce Herndon, Bo Herndon and Hugh Wingard and a map which showed the portion of J.L. Thompson Road. The impact statements have been received from all necessary departments with no objection. With this request Management recommend that the board proceed with the next step and notify all adjacent property owners with proper notification and a public hearing is held, before the next Commissioners Meeting, the board will then decide to close and abandoned this section of road.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to continue with the process of closing a portion of J.L. Thompson Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Resolution of Speed Limit for Portion of Glynn James Road and a Portion of Joe Harden Road:

Manager Jones stated there was some confusion given the ambiguity of the description in October of 2023, therefore Management presented a clearly clarify the beginning and ending of each of these changes in speed limit on this section of roadway. The confusion in the prior Resolution was because of the change from Glynn James Road to Joe Harden Road and only the paved portion of both roads are effective.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to sign the Speed Limit for Portion of Glynn James Road (paved) and Joe Harden Road (paved). Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Ratifying Purchase of Water Tanker for the Landfill:

Manager Jones stated the existing water tanker to transport leachate from the landfill to water treatment plant has a broken axle. A tanker trailer was found to replace this military truck from McCorkle Sales in Claxton, Georgia in the amount of \$10,000. Management recommended that the board approve this purchase and pay from the Landfill Fund.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the ratification of the purchase of Water Tanker trailer for the landfill in the amount of \$10,000 from McCorkle Sales in Claxton, Georgia and to pay with Landfill Funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Ratification of Three (3) Emergency Repairs on Old Normantown Road:

Manager Jones stated there is three areas of Old Normantown Road that have concrete pipes that are failing. The road will be closed for several days. The public will be notified of the closure for the repair once McLendon Enterprises has been notified to proceed. Management recommended the board approve this emergency repair by McLendon Enterprises for \$86,400 and to be paid with TSPLOST funds.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the three (3) emergency repairs by McLendon Enterprises for \$86,400 on Old Normantown Road and to be paid with TSPLOST funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Superior and Juvenile Court for FY 2025:

Manager Jones stated it the Commissioners Packet was a copy of a proposal from District Court Administrator, Bob Nadekow. In the cover letter he identifies areas of increases and the reasons thereof. Mr. Nadekow also noted the future increases in operating cost of the court system, an significant increase for the required interpreters and increases for the court reporters. Management recommended the board approving the Superior and Juvenile Court for fiscal year 2025, the State's fiscal year starts July 1st in the amount of an annual budget of \$327,217, Toombs County's annual share is \$91,677; which is based on the population, Toombs being the largest in the circuit.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Nobles to approve the Superior and Juvenile Court for fiscal year 2025, the State's fiscal year starts July 1st in the amount of an annual budget of \$327,217 Toombs County's annual share is \$91,677; which is based on the population, Toombs being the largest in the circuit. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Middle

Manager Jones stated in the Commissioners Packet was a copy of a proposal from the Public Defender. They as well have had increase fees based on the fact

Circuit Public Defender for Superior Court for FY 2025:

the Public Defender is having a difficult time hiring and retaining attorneys. The total annual budget of \$711,493.74, Toombs County's annual share is \$195,803.08 which represents 27.52% of the total costs. Management recommended that the Board to Approve the Middle Circuit Public Defenders FY 2025 Budget.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Middle Circuit Public Defender for Superior Court for fiscal year 2025, the State's fiscal year starts July 1st in the amount of an annual budget of \$711,493 Toombs County's annual share is \$195,803; which is based on the population, Toombs being the largest in the circuit. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Proposal from Davenport & Company for Financial Review and Assessment for Long Term Planning:

Manager Jones stated in the Commissioners Packet was a copy of a proposal from Davenport & Company for financial review and assessment for long term planning. Davenport & Company are the same financial advisors the county used to obtain our bond rating and the issuance of the revenue bonds to build the Courthouse. Given the anticipated growth for Toombs County and Region, Manager Jones would like for Davenport & Company to insure that we maintain our current bond rating and to help us assess our future financial position to manage the growth in the most efficient financial manner. Management recommended the board to approval the proposal from Davenport and Company and to pay with General Funds under Professional Services.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve Davenport & Company to do a financial review and assessment for long term planning and to be paid out of the General Fund under Professional Services. Manager Jones will sign the agreement with Davenport & Company. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Declaring the Old Compactor at the Landfill as Excess/Obsolete Property and Disposing of the same:

Manager Jones stated the compactor that caught fire and burned; the insurance company has declared a total loss and paid. Notification has been received from the insurance company to dispose however we wish. Management recommended the board to declare the old compactor as excess/obsolete equipment and to dispose the machine via a auction through JM Wood Auction Company.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to declare the old compactor at the Landfill as excess/obsolete property and dispose of the burnt machine through auction done by JM Wood Auction Company. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Requesting the Local State Delegation to Allow the County to Create Tax Allocation Districts in the January 2025 Legislative Session:

Manager Jones stated that Tax Allocation Districts (TAD) allows local government to fund infrastructure on areas of the community that the local governments wish to encourage development. A TAD bond is the mechanism through which funding is created to incentivize new development in designated areas. TAB bonds are issued to monetize the projected future increases in property tax revenues, so that funding is available to subsidize a portion of development costs up front. The TAS bonds are repaid over the life of the TAD with new property tax revenues generated by higher property values as a result of new development. Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Nobles to approve the requesting process with the local state delegation to allow Toombs County to create tax allocation districts in the January 2025 legislative session. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of

Manager Jones stated Public Works had identifies twelve vehicles as obsolete/

Declaring (12) Twelve Public Works Vehicles as Obsolete/Excess and Approving Sale:

excess. Four of the twelve vehicles do not run; two of them are dump trucks. Management recommended that ten (10) of the vehicles be sold with a sealed bid process and to have an option of selling the dump trucks by other methods. The following is the list of vehicles to considering selling.

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Milage</u>	<u>VIN/Serial #</u>
Ford	F150	2007	Pick-Up	White	194394	1FTRF14W17NA50137
Ford	F150	2011	Pick-Up	White	150887	1FTNF1CF5BKD82317
Ford	F350	1984	Service Body	White	37284	1FDJF37G4ENA72770
Ford	F150	2012	Pick-Up	White	215755	1FTMF1CM2CKD83033
Ford	F150	2014	Pick-Up	White	108533	1FTNF1CF7EKD13066
Chevrolet	1500	2004	Pick-Up	Grey	214056	2GCECK19T341206409
Chevrolet	1500	2004	Pick-Up	White	210896	2GCEC19T441186894
Chevrolet	1500	2004	Pick-Up	Gold	206851	2GCEC19T541157548
Ford	Econoline	2020	Van	White	256192	1FNE2425YHB86789
Ford	F150	2014	Pick-Up	White	154988	1FTNF1EF4EKD29092
Mack	GU433	2018	Tandem Dump Truck	White	110760	1M2AX32C7JM011401
International	7600	2015	Tandem Dump Truck	White	184374	3HAGSSNT6FL688620

Management recommended that ten (10) of the vehicles be sold with a sealed bid process and to have an option of selling the dump trucks by other methods.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to sale declare twelve (12) Public Works Vehicles as obsolete/excess and approving the sale there of. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Buy Back of 2016 John Deere Backhoe and Lease on New CAT 420 Backhoe:

Manager Jones stated this is the process that we are moving toward leasing all of our equipment instead of owning the equipment. The proposal lease for CAT is \$35,157 per year, for five years, then the buy-back price of \$130,970. This includes premier extended warranty, which is called CSA, this is where CAT will come out and service the Backhoe. The trade in of the 2016 John Deere CAT will pay the county \$40,500 for the trade-in.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the trade-in for the 2016 John Deere in the amount of \$40,500 and to lease the new CAT 420 Backhoe in the amount of \$35,157 per year, for five years. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Buy-Back of 2016 CAT 12M3 Motor Grader and Lease on New CAT 140JOY-BR Motor Grader with Sloper:

Manager Jones stated there is an option to lease or purchase a Motor Grader for the Public Works Department. The proposal lease from CAT is \$89,910 per year, for five years. The premier extended warranty, which is called CSA, this is where CAT will come out and service the Backhoe is an additional price of 49,480. On the 2016 CAT 12M3 Motor Grader, as a trade-in, will pay the county \$40,500. Management recommended to approve paying the CSA in the amount of \$49,488 up front and then 89,910 per month for five years for the new CAT 140JOY-BR Motor Grader with Sloper. Also accept the trade-in offer of \$120,000 for the 2016 CAT 12M3 Motor Grader.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve paying the CSA in the amount of \$49,488 up front and then 89,910 per month for five years for the new CAT 140JOY-BR Motor Grader with Sloper. Also accept the trade-in offer of \$120,000 for the 2016 CAT 12M3 Motor Grader. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report: Manager Jones stated in the Commissioners Packet there was a copy of the financial report. M&O expenses are three percent under budget revenue is where we expected to be for April. E-911 revenue is on budget and expenditures are sixteen percent under budget this year. Solid Waste revenue is four percent over budget, expenses are three percent over budget but it is expected to level out as the year goes on. Sales tax continues to be relatively strong.

Miscellaneous: We are expecting to be finished with our project by August 1st and could start thinking about an open house for the Toombs County Government Center. Every three years the Grand Jury does an inspection on the County's Operations; everything was satisfactory with them. Enclosed in the Commissioners packet was the Renewal and Marketing Analysis by NFP. (There is a slight increase in the coverage.) Also, there was the aging report for Landfill and Workmen's Comp Report.

Commissioners Comments: Vice-Chairman Nobles suggested that the Commissioner and staff not to wear ties or coats for the months of June, July and August meeting; all were in agreement.

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.

David Sikes, Chairman

Attest: _____
Helen Harris, County Clerk