

**TOOMBS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**November 19, 2024**

**Room 263**  
**5:30 PM**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**PRESENT:** **ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, BLAKE TILLERY, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.**

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Dixon called November Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

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

**Approve Agenda:** Commissioner Dixon asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to amend the Agenda and add Consideration of Approval of ER Assist as Grant Writer for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and to add Consideration of Approval of Supplement Financial Advisory Services Agreement with Davenport & Associates which will be add after presentation of the Proposed Budgets for 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Dixon asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the  
**October 15, 2024** Regular Board Meeting held on October 15, 2024.

**Regular Board Meeting:**

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the October 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Dixon asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the  
**October 23, 2024** Called Board Meeting held on October 23, 2024.

**Called Board Meeting:**

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the October 23, 2024 Called Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Development Authority Report:**

**Michele Johnson** stated the Development Authority (TCDA) Regular Monthly Meeting – Thursday, November 21st, 12 noon. (All meetings will be held in the Dot Foods Business Hub, Greater Vidalia Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, 208 East First Street, Vidalia, unless otherwise noted. Leadership Greater Vidalia (LGV) Culture & Leisure Session – Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Greater Vidalia Center for Rural Entrepreneurship (CRE) Mentor Training – Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 A.M. Greater Vidalia Workforce Strategy (GVWS) Steering Committee Quarterly Meeting – Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> 8:30 A.M. Thanksgiving Holidays – Office Closed on Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Greater Vidalia Chamber (GVC) Regular Monthly Meeting – Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 A.M. Greater Vidalia Chamber (GVC) State of Education – Lyons First Baptist Church, 144 S. Washington Street, Lyons – Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Greater Vidalia Youth Leadership (GVYL) Healthcare & Community Service Session – Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Joint Ribbon Cutting, Optim Health System, Lucy Pierson Medical Office Building, 1707 Meadows Lane, Suite A, Vidalia – Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon. Georgia Academy for Economic Development (GAED) “The Essentials” – Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Leadership Greater Vidalia (LGV) Government Session - Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

<b>Department Reports:</b>	None
<b>Public Participation:</b>	<b>Wesley Walker</b> , Lyons Chief of Police, Introduced Neena Bloxham, Executive Director of Leigh-Anna White & Company. Ms. Bloxham has started the Community Care Line which can help citizens with public needs they may have and give them direction on how assistance can be obtained by calling (912)585-7317.
<b>Consideration of Approval of the Following Alcohol Licenses:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated all of the licenses applications are from exiting license holders except one, John’s Country Junction. John’s Country Junction operation is an existing license holder site but now has a new owner; this license will finish out the year 2024 and they will apply again for the 2025 License at the first of the year. All of the applicants are in compliance with the County Ordinances. Management recommended the Board approve all of the applications.</p> <p>Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Nobles to approve Pops General Store, John’s Country Junction (New Owner), La Joya Mexican Store for Alcohol Licenses. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pops General Store,</li> <li>• John’s Country Junction (New Owner), (New Owner),</li> <li>• La Joya Mexican Store,</li> <li>• Janis Mart:</li> </ul>	
<b>Consideration of Approval of Collins Estates Subdivision Site Development Plans:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated the Commissioners Packet you have a copy of the proposed Collins Estates subdivision site. The Plans are in compliance with the County Ordinance on sub-divisions. It has been approved by Hofstadter &amp; Associates, County Engineers and our Public Work Director. This property is off of Hwy. 297 at the end of Mosley Road. Management recommended the Board to approve.</p> <p>Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Collins Estates Subdivision Site Development Plans. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Approval of Amendment # 1 to Health Services Agreement:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated a copy of the amendment to our existing contract with Southern Health Partners, Inc. was included in the Commissioners Packet. There was a change to the prior contract mainly because the increasing estimated average daily population has increased from 120 to 165 in the Detention Center. The Sheriff has requested the board approve this amendment. Management recommended the Board to approve this amendment and authorize the Chairman to sign.</p> <p>Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Amendment # 1 to Health Services Agreement and approve the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Approval of Easement Agreement and Agreement &amp; Release:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated that this easement agreement allows Silicon Ranch to cross Mosley Road, New Normantown Road and Blaxton Road for underground utilities. The Grantee has complied with all of previously requested requirements and the Public Works Director has approved the plans for installation. The Agreement and Release from the Grantee to the County. Management recommended the Board to approve the Easement Agreement, the Agreement &amp; Release Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign both.</p> <p>Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Easement Agreement and Agreement &amp; Release and authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Approval of Grand Jurors and Traverse Jurors Pay:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated the county received a letter from the Grand Jury asking to increase the pay of the Grand Jurors to \$35.00 per day and the Traverse Jurors to be paid \$30.00 per day.</p>

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Grand Jurors to be paid \$35.00 per day and Traverse Jurors to be paid \$30.00 per day. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation of the Proposed Budgets for 2025:**

Manager Jones stated a booklet was prepared for the Commissioners review. The information will be ready to release to the public on November 21<sup>st</sup> and a Public Hearing on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M. for any public comment.

**Consideration of Approval of ERAssist as Grant Writer for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program:**

Manager Jones stated this is a grant that has a dead line in December 20<sup>th</sup> and ERAssist is also our grant writer for the FEMA Grant to remove debris. Management recommended the Board to approve the approval of ERAssist as the Grant Writer for FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve ERAssist as the Grant Writer for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Approval of Supplement Financial Advisory Services Agreement with Davenport & Associates:**

Manager Jones stated Davenport & Associates are Financial Advisors that the helped the county with financing the Courthouse. As the county waits for the FEMA funds to be provided, we as a county may have to acquire funding until funds are received from FEMA for the recovery efforts that are being done from the storm Helene.

Vice-Chairman Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the Supplement Financial Advisory Services Agreement with Davenport & Associates. Motion carried unanimously.

**Manager Report Financial Report:**

Manager Jones stated the Sales tax continues to increase. The M & O Budget (Maintenance and Operations) is on budget. The revenue so far has been a little higher that expected for this year.

**Miscellaneous:**

The landscaper is expected to be finished on the Courthouse grounds by December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioners Comments:**

Commissioner Cason told Manager Jones that he had been doing a magnificent job and he wanted to thank Manager John Jones for all of his work.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Dixon asked for a motion to adjourn from the Regular Board Meeting.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Nobles to adjourn from the Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned 5:57 P.M.

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Wendell Dixon, Commissioner, District 2

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Helen Harris, County Clerk