Chairman Grady Thompson called to order the meeting of the Tift County Board of Commissioners and established that a quorum was present. In attendance in addition to Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Buck Rigdon and Commissioner Robert Setters, Mike Jones, Donnie Hester, Sherry Miley and Melissa Chevers.

The Chairman asked Commissioner Hester to give the invocation.

Mayor Keith Beasley called to order the meeting of the City of Ty Ty and established that a quorum was present. In attendance in addition to Mayor Beasley were Council Members Mary Jane Tipper, Tony Randall, Shirley Strawter, Linda Drawdy and Malcom Kelly.

Mayor Jamie Cater called to order the meeting of the City of Tifton and established that a quorum was present. In attendance in addition to Mayor Cater were Council Members Marianne Keesee, David Hetzel, Joe Lewis and Johnny Terrell.

Mayor Ray Hunt called to order the meeting of the City of Omega and established that a quorum was present. In attendance in addition to Mayor Hunt were Council Members Ernest Harris, Joe Turner, Jr., Dickie Robinson, and James G. Patrick.

At this time Mayor Jamie Cater asked to have a moment of silence referring the events that took place in Tucson, Arizona on Saturday. Our Community is only as strong as our Nation and there are some hurting people across the nation and it is important that were stand together.

**CITY OF TY TY:** Motion was made by Councilperson Mary Jane Tipper to adopt by Resolution the Interlocal Agreement for the City of Ty Ty for SPLOST V, seconded by Councilperson Shirley Strawter. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilperson Mary Jane Tipper for the City of Ty Ty to go into recess at this time, seconded by Councilperson Shirley Strawter. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY OF OMEGA:** Motion was made by Councilperson Dickie Robinson to adopt by Resolution the Interlocal Agreement for the City of Omega for SPLOST V, seconded by Councilperson James Gibbs Patrick, III. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilperson Ernest Harris for the City of Omega to go into recess at this time, seconded by Councilperson Dickie Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY OF TIFTON:** Mayor Cater stated that we are here tonight for consideration of adopting a Resolution of the City of Tifton, Georgia approving and authorizing execution by the Mayor and City Council of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and certain Municipalities of Tift County concerning a One Percent Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax enacted pursuant to O.C.G.A Section 48-8-110 repealing prior Resolutions in conflict; and for other purposes. The Mayor called for a motion. Motion was made by Councilperson Marrianna Keesee to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilperson Johnny Terrell. The Mayor called for discussion. Councilperson Marrianna Keesee made an official protest for herself and asked that it be included in the official record. Her statement is as follows: “I should like this to be an official protest from Marrianna Keesee, Council Member for District 1 for the official record. I do not agree with the wording in the Intergovernmental Agreement Section 12. I received the document containing the SPLOST referendum at 5:27 PM Friday, January 7: after the close of the business day, leaving no practical time for the press and public to be notified for a possible public meeting before 6 PM on January 10, joint meetings on the SPLOST referendum. In my opinion, the “wordsmithing” done between the public meeting on January 5th and the email I received on January 7th introduced a new idea that was never discussed at public meetings: complete resolution of past tax equity issues as a result of increased SPLOST funding for the city. If I do not vote to accept this wording, I fail to support the SPLOST issue. I believe that SPLOST is critical to all of the local governments and it is fiscally responsible. I will vote in favor of it in spite of my objection to Section 12. I, personally, have been prepared for several weeks, to move forward beyond the past tax equity issues in good faith cooperation with county and city governments. However, to my knowledge, the topic of tax equity resolution was never publicly discussed. Perhaps the timing was predicated only on a “last minute” idea to include in the proposal; thus accounting for its never being discussed publically. In generosity, and showing good faith to work cooperatively with the other governments, I can perhaps accept this explanation. I did write an alternate proposal which our City Manager gave to the County Manager this morning.”

Councilperson Joe Lewis made a statement before the vote. “This is a very valuable document, it has been developed and I salute all the staff that has worked to develop it and bring us to this point. I do share concerns as Councilwoman Keesee has stated and share her views about Section 12, however it is important that we balance that with two or three other considerations: 1. The importance of this document transcends the concerns that I too have. 2. Counselor Sowell has instructed and informed us that the inclusion of that statement will in no way hinder us as we move forward with any types of negotiation on SPLOST and other equity issues. 3. I have experienced and appreciate the good faith moves that our County colleagues have worked with us and I trust they are working closely with us to resolve tax equity issues for the future. In that same spirit if you will respect mine and other council
member objections to be stated as a part of the record relative to this particular Section, I also will forego any further
corns and objections to this.”

There was no further discussion and Mayor Cater called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

The City of Tifton is now in recess.

**TIFT COUNTY:** Motion was made by Commissioner Setters to adopt the Resolution for the Interlocal
Governmental Agreement between the County and or Municipalities for SPLOST V, seconded by Commissioner
Hester. Commissioner Jones stated: “I support the SPLOST concept for the General Fund Expenses so that we can
shift some of the tax from property tax to SPLOST: is this a perfect list, probably not, but I do support placing the
referendum on the ballot.” Commissioner Miley stated: “I do have concerns and request that it is in the minutes
that the concerns are for the actual breakdown of the funds for SLPOST but I believe that it is my responsibility to
let the voters have their say by placing it on the ballot.

There was no further discussion and Mayor Cater called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to adopt the Resolution calling for the Referendum to be placed on the
ballot for SPLOST V, seconded by Vice Chairman Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Miley. Motion carried
unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7  
Vice Chairman, Fred W. Rigdon District 5

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1  
Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3  
Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist. 4

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6  
Attest: Glynda Hemby, County Clerk

Chairman Thompson declared the Tift County meeting out of recess for further action.