The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman on Monday, November 14, 2011, at 6:00 P.M. in the Commissioner’s Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Member of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Robert Setters and Commissioners Buck Rigdon, Donnie Hester, Melissa Chevers, Sherry Miley and Mike Jones.

Chairman Thompson asked Commissioner Jones to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

Minutes:  Motion approving the minutes of October 4, 2011 Workshop Session; October 10, 2011 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Tift County Re-Districting Maps (H)

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Setters to add this Item to the Agenda under the letter H, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Victims Assistant Grant for the District Attorney Office  (I)

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Setters to add this Item to the Agenda under the letter I, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

Charles Majeski, Board appointee to the Behavioral Health Board was present and extended an invitation to the Commissioners to attend their annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 17 at the Tift Adult Center located on the Tifton Eldorado Road. He also gave the Board a brief update on the status of the Behavioral Health Services of South Georgia and thanked the Board for all that they do for them.

Informational items for Discussion Only:

Roger Dill gave the Board an update on the status of Carpenter Road. The project is being funded by the County and the Development Authority with the County responsible for 35% and the Development Authority’s portion is 65%. The Engineering Design Contract for the project is $593,389 and to date $457,000 has been paid leaving a balance of $136,339 and it is about 74% complete. The big tickets items are right-of-way, utilities and environmental. The estimated cost of these items was $882,000 and to date we have paid $266,146 leaving a balance of $616,800. The surveying has been paid for and is complete. The total cost of this project for Tift County and the Development Authority will be 1.5 million dollars. Tift County will have put $545,000 into the project and the development Authority will have well over one million in the project. It is schedule to be let in 2013.

Mr. Dill gave an article on the T-SPLOST and stressed how important it will be to get this Referendum passed. Tift County has 3 projects listed on the proposed referendum and we will need everybody’s help on this to get it passed.

He advised that the DOT is having a Concept Meeting on the By-Pass this Thursday at the GDOT Building here in Tifton. This is one of the projects on the T-SPLOST. They will be discussing a typical section of the By-Pass and the right-of-way. He will keep the Board informed on the meetings and the discussions of the By-Pass.

Update on the Omega Road from 319 to I-75 Project: We spent $57,000 for a concept study and then the state wanted us to do an environmental study and some other things. This project has been given back to the state.
PUBLIC HEARING: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

C. Motion authorizing Chairman to execute the Fiber Transport and Internet Service Agreement with Plant Telecommunications for fiber optic connections in the amount of $5,390 per month for one year.

D. Motion authorizing the Chairman to execute the contract for printing services with Harris Computer System for printing and mailing of the Personal Property Reports and Returns and Freeport Exemption Applications for one year in the amount of $2,198

E. Motion to adopt the updated Tift Lift Substance Abuse Policy, requirement compliance by the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration

Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Voice Over IP: At the Workshop Session the Board requested that a spreadsheet with all the bids that were received be presented before the Board took action on this. Al Stephenson prepared and presented the bids to the Board as follows:

Cooper Craft Communications $68,880.92
Southern Telecom $69,688.00
Windstream Communications $99,104.18
Adcap Network Systems $135,277.25

Staff recommends accepting the low bid from Cooper Craft Communications and Al advised that we do a lot of business with them and have been very pleased with their service. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to accept the low bid from Cooper Craft Communications for the new phone system for all Tift County Facilities in the amount of $68,880.92 to be funded from SPLOST IV, seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

B. LAN Equipment & Programming: Al Stephenson presented the two bids received for the program of the switches for the new phone system as: Adcap Network Systems of Atlanta in the amount of $7,000 and Invision Technologies in the amount of $5,300. He explained that Cooper Craft Communications does not do this type of work but that Invision Technologies comes highly recommended by them and they are the low bid. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Setters to accept the low bid from Invision Technologies to program the switches for the new phone system in the amount of $5,300 and purchase the 8 Cisco switches in the amount of $25,739.20 all to be funded from SPLOST IV, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Airport Authority Board Appointment: The County Clerk advised the Board that David Bryan’s appointment to this Authority will expire at the end of this year. There are no other applications on file. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester nominating David Bryan, seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rigdon to close the nominations and appoint David Bryan to the Airport Authority Board for another 4 year term, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried with a 4 to 2 vote. Commissioners Jones and Miley voted against the motion.

G. Rental Lease for Head Start: Motion to table for 30 days was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Tift County Re-districting Maps: The County Manager advised that the Board of Education took action on this matter at their November 8, 2011 meeting. The County Manager presented and read a letter from the Tift County Board of Education which includes their action as follows: “Approve Map 6B with the directive that the Superintendent provide written notice to the Tift County Board of Commissioners of the Board of Education’s selection and recommendation that the
Board of Commissioners approve the same.” Motion was made by Commissioners Jones to approve and adopt Tift County Re-district Map 6B as prepared and presented by the Southern Regional Commissioner, seconded by Commissioner Miley. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Victims Assistance Grant for the District Attorney’s Office: Leigh Jordan, Finance Director advised the Board that this is the year Grant that we received that funds the Victims Assistance Program through the District Attorney’s Office. The grant has already begun in this Fiscal Year but they have just sent the documents to me executed. The Chairman will need to sign all the documents to be returned to the Criminal Justice coordinating Council. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester authorizing the Chairman to execute the documents for the Victims Assistance Grant, seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners Items:

Commissioner Chevers reported that “Keep ‘Em Warm” event has begun which is the Coat Drive that she coordinates yearly. The goal this year is 400 and asked that any and everyone please contribute a coat if possible. The coats will be collected December 10th at Copeland Park. She has discussed with Craig Sowell, Recreation Director the thoughts on a Volleyball Team. She would like to see us gets some team organized. Craig will continue working on this with her.

Vice Chairman Setters wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe traveling for those planning to be on the road.

County Manager Items: None

Executive Session: None

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7
Vice Chairman Robert Setters, District 3

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

Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist. 4
Commissioner F. W. (Buck) Rigdon, District 5

Attest: _____________________________
Glynda Hemby, County Clerk
11/14/2011