The scheduled Budget Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, from 8 AM to 5 PM in the Conference Room at the Recreation Pool Facility. Members of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Robert Setters and Commissioners Buck Rigdon, Sherry Miley, Melissa Chevers, Donnie Hester and Mike Jones.

Also present at this meeting were: Jim Carter, County Manager; Glynda Hemby, County Clerk; Leigh Jordan and Diane Kelly with the Finance Department.

This was a non-action and informal meeting with the Board to discuss the proposed 2011-2012 Operating Budget for Tift County.

The County Manager advised the Board, and gave a copy of a Memorandum of Understanding that will necessitate a meeting with the City of Tift to dissolve the Interlocal Agreements that are currently in place with the City. The city has recently indicated a desire to sever contractual relationships concerning departments combined during the Service Delivery Strategy Negotiations with the exception of fire protection. The services that will be delivered by the County on a County wide basis are E911, Emergency Management, Animal Control and Mosquito Control. The service that will be separated is Development Support Services that manages code enforcement, permitting, building inspections, historical preservation and planning and zoning.

The Agreement is that the County will provide E911, EMA, Animal Control and Mosquito Control to all citizens of Tift County and will make adjustments in the County Tax Rate for residents living inside the Municipal Limits of the City to properly fund services once jointly operated and funded but are now operated entirely by the County.

This Memorandum of Understanding will have to be executed by both Governmental Bodies and forward to DCA in order to stay in compliance.

A power point presentation was then given by the County Manager and the Finance Director on the Expenditures and Revenues of the Budget. Property Millage Rate increase was discussed and explained the reason for the increase to the City Residents because of the split of the departments that were jointly funded.

The County Manager and the Finance Director then went over areas by line item in the Budget that any Commissioners had questions or concerns about. It was explained that nothing was budgeted for cost of living raises for any County employees this year.

Later in the day, the Superior Court Judges came to the meeting to discuss some issues. The Judges were requesting an increase in their supplement. The other Counties in the jurisdiction are unable to help fund their portion of the supplement and they are asking the Board’s consideration of funding at least half of requested amount. The Board consented to fund $22,800 for the judge’s supplements.

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

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

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

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6  County Clerk

ATTEST: