The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners’ Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. 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.

Public Comments:

Charlotte Bedell addressed the Board concerning the upcoming Paws and claws benefit event for the Animal Shelter. They had planned to do every other year but it was such a huge success last year they decided to do it again this year. This event is sponsored by Save Our Pets foundation. It will be held this Saturday, May 7th from 10 Am to 3 PM. You can bring your pets for the “Blessing of the Pets”. There will be several vendors present. There will also be a Dog House raffle. Please see her if you are interested in a ticket, they are $10 each. Dogs will be available for adoption.

Jerry Camp was present and reminded and invited the Commissioner to National Day of Prayer to be held this Thursday, May 12th at 12 Noon on the courthouse lawn.

Representative Tony McBrayer was also present and reported to the Board that Legislative Session is over; it was a good session and a learning experience for his first year. He gave brief reports on some of the bills and action taken.

Public Hearings: None

Addition to the Agenda: Tiftarea Tidal Wave and Tift County memorandum of Understanding concerning Swimming and the Swim Team Request to swim at the Recreation Pool: (G)

Craig Sowell, Recreation Director briefed the Board on this issue. Tift County coordinated and worked with the Tifton Aquatic Club for many years starting in the 1960’s. In the midst of our pool renovation and the completion of the YMCA they went and swam with Tiftarea YMCA. The Swim Team and the YMCA have indicated an interest for them to be a part of the Recreation Department again and not part of the YMCA. TCRD has had many discussions with the Team and they are swimming at the recreation pool. This has been discussed and approved for this to occur. Since those discussions issues arising out of coach retention and pay have arisen. This memorandum of understanding was created to help simplify this process and to document what needed to occur in the interest of both parties. The County Attorney requested this go to the commission for consideration.

Items to be discussed for Regular Session on May 9, 2011:

A. Henry Ross Pitman Tax Issue: The County Attorney advised the Board that he and Mr. Pittman are still in some discussion on the Tax Issue and would like to request that the Board consider tabling this item again for another 60 days.

B. Road Name Change: The County Manager advised that this will be an honorary name came only and the original road name will continue as South Park Avenue. A sign will be placed underneath the original street name as Melvin D. McDaniel Avenue for honorary purpose. The petitioners will have to pay the $200 fee for the sign.

C. Athletic Advisory Committee Vacancies: Craig Sowell advised the Board that there are two vacancies on this Board and the recommendation from the Athletic Advisory Committee is to appoint Lori Gunn Baker for an unexpired three year term to end in May 2013 and Dickie Robinson to fill a vacated seat that would have expired in May 2011. If Mr. Robinson is appointed to fill the vacant seat it will be for a three year term to expire in May 2014.

D. Renewal of FDA (Food & Drug administration) Lease: The County Attorney has review the lease from the Food and Drug Administration that occupies space on the 3rd Floor of the Administration Building. There are some things in the document we need to revisit. They pay a very small amount of rent and the lease states we are responsible for maintenance and improvements to the office space. If they are going to ask for improvements we need to request more money for the rent. The lease is very old; it originated in 1994 and is a 65 page document. It needs to be revised and cut down the wording.

E. Re-appointment of Department of Family & Children Services Board: The County Clerk advised that the term of Perry McCranie, Jr. will expires on June 30, 2100. Mr. McCranie has expressed a desire to continuing service and a letter of recommendation from the DFCS Board is attached to the Board requires for your review. This will be for a five year term expiring on June 30, 2016.
F. Re-appointment of the Tifton-Tift County Library Board: The County Clerk advised that the term of Filiberto Hernandez will expire on June 30, 2011. He has expressed a desire to continue serving and it is the recommendation of the Library Board for the Board’s consideration to re-appoint him for another 3 year term ending June 30, 2014.

County Manager Items:

- Yielded time to the County Clerk to give some reminders:
  1) Mott-Litman Track Dedication on May 4th at 5 o’clock PM
  2) Health Fair sponsored by Tift County & Tift Regional on May 7th from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon at Mott-Litman Park
  3) Healthy Kids Day sponsored by the YMCA on May 7th from 12 Noon to 2 PM – Proclamation to be presented

- Jason Jordan spoke with the Board and showed a drawing of the proposed storage building to be built at the Recreation Department that will replace the two mobile units that have been sold to be removed from County property. The building construction will be advertised for bids and at a later date the bids will be presented to the Board for the award. The building will be paid for from SPLOST 1996 and 2003 funding.

- Mr. Carter gave an update on the class that he attended at the recent ACCG Annual Conference held in Savannah. He took Advanced Financial Management that was taught by Sabrina Cape and he just wanted to commend the Tift County Finance Staff for doing a good job. In the class the outline was what Counties should be doing in the finance department and we are doing everything that we should be doing. Kudos to the Finance Staff

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Chevers extended Happy Mother’s Day wishes to all the Mothers.

Commissioner Jones offered some Kudos to the County staff referencing the recent SPLOST Referendum. He stated that he had attended the Ty Ty City Council Meeting last night and they were very complimentary of the involved that the County Staff allowed them in the recent SPLOST meetings leading up to the wording, negotiating and passing of SPLOST. They also would like to be as included on the LOST negotiations.

Executive Session: None

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

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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

ATTEST:

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6       County Clerk