The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman on Monday, October 8, 2012, 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 Donnie Hester, Melissa Chevers, Sherry Miley and Mike Jones.

Chairman Thompson asked Vice Chairman Setters to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

Minutes: Motion approving the minutes of September 4, 2012 Workshop Session; September 10, 2012 Regular Session, was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Miley asked that one correction of a misspelled word be made in the minutes.

Public Comments: None

Addition to the Agenda:

Outsourcing Water/Wastewater Operations (M)

Motion to amend the Agenda and add this item under the letter “M” was made by Vice Chairman Setters, seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Renewal Contract for Fiber with Planttel: This is the renewal contract for the fiber optics running to seven County Buildings which allows employees to access County servers running a variety of applications. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester authorizing the Chairman to endorse the renewal contract in the amount of $5,443.43, seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Tift County Emergency Management Ordinance: The current Ordinance must be updated and this is the current revision of the Tift County Emergency Management Ordinance that reflects current state standards and an agreement for county-wide emergency management services. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to approved the revised Tift County Emergency Management Ordinance and authorizing the Chairman to endorse the Ordinance along with the Interlocal Agreement with the Cities of Tifton, Omega and TyTy to provide Emergency Management Services, seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Tift County Local Emergency Operations Plan: The Local Emergency Operation Plan must be updated when significant changes occur or at least every four years and requires the approval of the Board. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to approve the updated Local Emergency Operations Plan and authorize the Chairman to endorse the document, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

D. LMIG Project Recommendation: County Staff recommends that the 2013 GDOT LMIG funds be used to resurface Whiddon Mill Road from Carpenter Road to Ty Ty Whiddon Mill Road which is 5 miles. Due to heavy traffic we are having problems with the road cracking and GDOT has performed a core test and suggested a pavement design to be used. GDOT funds toward this project id $445,990.82 and the County’s remaining portion can be funded through SPLOST IV. Motion to approve the recommended road for the LMIG project was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Fuel Management System: The County’s current Fuel management System is currently outdated and becoming very hard to find someone for repairs. Bids have been solicited for a new system that would allow the fuel systems at the Road Department and the Sheriff’s Department to be
accessed by both departments. Three vendors have been contacted for quotes and it is staff’s recommendation to purchase the system from MECO in the low bid amount of $30,348.49 and it can be funded from SPLOST IV. Motion approving the purchase of a new fuel system for the County from MECO in the amount of $30,348.49 to be paid from SPLOST IV was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Road Closure Ordinance: Staff has worked with the County Attorney to produce an Ordinance for Road Closures. While there are certain guidelines that have to be followed by State Law, the County presently does not have a system procedure in place and the Ordinance address this and provides an applicant Checklist, Advertisement for the newspaper, an application form as well as a fee structure, all in accordance with the standard State Law. Staff recommends the adoption of the Ordinance so that in the future Road Closure procedures will be uniform. Motion to adopt the Tift County Road Closure Ordinance was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Asphalt Trailer Bid: The Road Department has solicited bids for a much need asphalt hot box/reclaimer trailer for use when patching roads and filling pot holes. Five bids were received and staff has reviewed all bids and specification on the trailers and recommends the trailer from K M International, Inc. in the amount of $13,890 due to the heavy design of the trailer. Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to purchase the asphalt trailer from K m International, Inc. in the amount of $13,890 to be paid from SPLOST IV funds, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Athletic Advisory Committee Appointments: There are two vacant seats on this Board, one that expires May 2013 and one that expires May 2015. The Athletic Advisory Committee met with five individuals that submitted applications. They are Phil Salter, Chad Sumner, Bret Henderson, Tim McCrae and William Baldree. The Chairman opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Rigdon nominated Bret Henderson, there were no other nominations and the Chairman closed the nomination process. Motion was made by Commissioner Rigdon to appoint Bret Henderson to the Athletic Advisory Committee for the term ending May 2013, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman opened the floor for nominations for the next seat. Commissioner Jones nominated Phil Salter, there were no other nominations and the Chairman closed the nomination process. Motion was made by Commissioner Jones appointing Phil Slater to the Athletic Advisory Committee for the term ending May 2015, seconded by Commissioner Miley. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Appointment to the Region Four Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities Board: Motion was made by Commissioner Chevers to appoint the County Clerk to serve as the Tift County representative on the Region Four Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities Board, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried with a 5 to 1 vote. Commissioner Miley voted against the motion.

J. Beer & Wine License for Economy Inn/Gas Station in Chula: Motion was made by Commissioner Miley to approve the Beer & Wine License for Economy Inn/Gas Station in Chula, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Resolution naming Tift County after Henry Harding Tift instead of Nelson Tift: Motion to table this item for 30 days was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Hospital Bonds: Motion to table this item for 30 days was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

M. Outsourcing Water/Wastewater Operations: The City Manager and ESG representatives were present for any further questions the Commissioner may have before acting on this item. Commissioner Hester questioned how this was going to benefit the County. It was explained that this is a Joint Enterprise Fund and has been under funded for a long time. The immediate savings is $175,000 and further savings to come on maintenance and ESG will keep us in compliance with EPD rules and regulations to keep us out of potential trouble. The next question was: Who reaps the benefits and it was explained that all monies made and generated stay within the Enterprise Fund. It was also explained that the city employees of the Water/Wastewater Department will now become
employees of ESG which is 18 fulltime and 3 part time employees. There will be a complete separate set of books that can be reviewed at anytime the County asked to see what is going on with the Water/Wastewater. There were no further questions. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Setters to approve Outsourcing the Water/Wastewater Operations and contract with ESG, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried by a 4 to 2 vote. Commissioner Hester and Chevers voted against the motion.

**The County Attorney:** gave the Board a copy of the Tift County’s Pre-Mediation Memorandum. He talked about the Purpose of the Local Option Sales Tax, Measuring Service Delivery Responsibility and the List of County Services. The other documents included in the handout the criteria and data that staff has worked on and put together for the mediation process. The first meeting will be held on October 11, 2012. He and the County Manager will keep the Board abreast of the mediation meetings.

**Executive Session:** None

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. 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  
Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6  
Attest: Glynda Hemby, County Clerk  
10/8/2012