The scheduled Called Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Thompson on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the Commissioners Meeting Room in the Administrative Building. Member of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Hughes and Commissioners Robert Setters, Buck Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker and Donnie Hester. Commissioner Greg Wood was present by phone due to an illness.

REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Approve funding for renovations of County owned building and purchase of equipment related to Fire Suppression:

Jason Jones advised the Board that the advertisement for the Fire Station Bids had been properly processed and bids were turned in and opened on April 12, 2016. Three bids were received with the low bid coming from Jones Construction Company in the amount of $561,000. The project has been value engineered at this point down to $523,000 and staff and architect will be looking for other cuts possible to bring the figure even lower. The spread sheet presented to the Board for Fiscal Year 2016 Fire Supplemental Budget was in the total amount of $1,601,898. Jason and the County Manager explained that if you take away the bid amount of $561,000 from that total, the remaining balance left in the budget for related equipment, renovation, paving, furniture, ladder truck, turnout gear, cardiac monitors, additional fire equipment, labor, uniforms and engineering/architectural is $1,040,898. Staff will be requesting the authorization of these expenditures in two separate motions.

Staff reported that on May 19th Tift County Public Safety will be graduating 15 volunteer firefighters that have successfully completed the training.

Commissioner Hester had a question because he has been getting a lot of calls and concerns as to whether taxes are going to be raised. The County Manager answered, not because of fire suppression. This is the same budget amount that the County has been sending to the City of Tifton through the Joint Fire Suppression Agreement for several years.

The County Manager also recommends setting up meetings with the four major departments in the County that have the largest budgets to meet with them for the each department head to give their budget presentations. Those departments are Sheriff, Road, Public Safety that includes EMA, EMS, 911 and fire. He will work out some dates and scheduling and contact each Commissioner for approve of dates and time to meet their schedules.

Motion to accept and award the bid to Jones Construction Company in the low bid amount of $561,000 not to exceed and to allow for additional value engineering was made by Commissioner Setters, seconded by Commissioner Stalnaker. Motion carried with a 5 to 1 vote. Vice Chairman Hughes voted against the motion.

Motion to approve expenditures from SPLOST funds in the amount of $1,040,898 for equipment and other materials need as it related to fire suppression was made by Commissioner Setters, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried with a 5 to 1 vote. Vice Chairman Hughes voted against the motion.

Executive Session: None

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Hughes seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7  
Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, District 1
Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2
Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, Dist. 4
Commissioner F. W. (Buck) Rigdon, District 5

Attest: 
Glynda Hemby, County Clerk
4/21/2016

Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6