

**CALLED SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020 (2 PM)**

The Called Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 2:00 pm. As the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 a global pandemic (03/11/20), President Donald Trump declared a National Emergency (03/13/20), Governor Brian Kemp declared a Public Health Emergency for the State of Georgia (3/14/20), and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has recommended social distancing measures be implemented for all individuals to prevent the continued spread of the illness, this Called Session was held with attendance by teleconference under the authority of OCGA 50-14-1(g). Members of the Commission in attendance via teleconference were: Chairman Grady Thompson and Commissioners Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker, and Melissa Hughes.

Notice of this meeting was given to the Tifton Gazette (legal organ), WALB News, Fun Channel, Grapevine, posted on the County's website and Facebook page and posted at the Charles Kent Administration building. The notice contained direction and opportunity for any citizens desiring to attend the meeting by phone.

County Manager Jim Carter presented Resolution No. 2020-07 which would authorize the waiver of certain penalties due on ad valorem taxes. Mr. Carter stated that this was an effort to relieve economic hardship brought by the 2020 Coronavirus disease outbreak. This resolution would allow the Tax Commissioner to waive certain penalties and interest of unpaid ad valorem taxes. The authorization for this waiver would cease to exist upon the Governor's termination of the March 14, 2020 declaration of a Public Health Emergency or at the very latest August 31, 2020, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by this Board.

Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-07. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

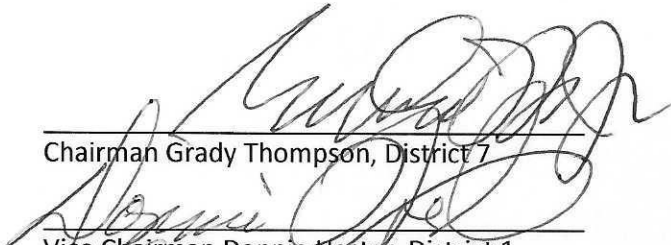
Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon made a motion to amend the agenda to add the consideration of an amendment to the March 24, 2020 Emergency Administrative Order. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed County staff to amend the Emergency Administrative Order to mirror what the City of Tifton is doing in regards to a mandatory shelter in place, the closing of non-essential businesses and adding some sort of penalty for violations. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 5 pm via teleconference to consider the proposed amendment.


ADJOURN: There being no further discussion, Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

[SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGE]

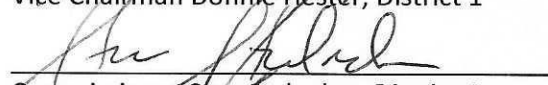
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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7



Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, District 1



Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4



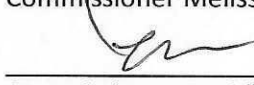
Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

VACANT

Vacant, District 3



Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2



Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5

ATTEST:



Miriam B. Jordan

DATE:

5.11.20