

REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017 (6:00 p.m.)

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Thompson on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 6:00p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room of the Charles Kent Administration Building. Members of the Commission present in addition to Chairman Thompson were: Vice Chairman Robert Setters and Commissioners Donnie Hester, Melissa Hughes, Stan Stalnaker, Fred "Buck" Rigdon and Greg Wood.

Commissioner Donnie Hester gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

MINUTES:

A Motion to approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2017 Workshop Session and the January 9, 2017 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Hester and seconded by Commissioner Wood. The Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC HEARING: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Motion to declare surplus the right of way as depicted in Tift County Parcel # 0058-037 (Carr property)
- C. Motion to Approve the purchase of the Unitrends backup solution as presented in the amount of \$11,789.52
- D. Motion to Approve the lease of 2 Kubota M6S-111 tractors from Perrin Tractor in the amount of \$15,600.00
- E. Motion to Authorize the Chairman and the County Manager to pen letters of support for the Sheriff's Office participation in the US DOJ Body-Worn Camera Grant application
- F. Motion to Approve the Baldwin Drive Pool filter room repair and award the project to Duffield Aquatics, Inc. in the amount of \$39,346.03
- H. Motion to Appoint Michael Walker as the Official Records Custodian of Tift County in accordance with O.C.G.A. 58-18-71(b)(1)(B)

A Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read by the County Manager was made by Commissioner Wood and Seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. The Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- B. Antivirus Software Renewal:** Information Technology Director Al Stephenson and County Attorney Tony Rowell informed the Board that Staff had examined the contractual obligation of the County as it related to an early termination or “out” clause with Sophos. It was determined that there was no associated penalty, nor was there any pro rata allowance for money that had been prepaid. The County could exit the agreement by discontinuing use, but would forfeit any funds that had been paid. However, because of the terms that had been extended in the proposal, the County would be essentially obtaining an extra year of coverage at no additional cost thereby rendering the unfavorable termination clause moot. The County Manager recommended that the Board enter into the three year renewal agreement and take advantage of the \$6,900.00 cost savings. A Motion to renew the agreement for the three year term as proposed was made by Vice Chairman Setters and Seconded by Commissioner Wood. The Motion carried unanimously.
- G. District Attorney Vehicle Replacement:** The County Manager advised the Board that District Attorney Paul Bowden had been involved in a traffic accident and that the 2014 Ford Taurus he was driving had been deemed a total loss. The at-fault vehicle’s insurance paid the County \$18,148.82. Mr. Bowden requested vehicle replacement, specifically a Ford Explorer. Staff obtained three quotes on a 2017 Ford Explorer and determined that Griffin Ford was the lowest bidder at \$33,068.00. At the February Workshop, some Commissioners indicated that they would like additional time to consider the vehicle replacement. Commissioner Rigdon indicated that his questions had been answered and Commissioner Hughes indicated that she had spoken with Mr. Bowden and she too was satisfied. Commissioner Hester expressed his desire to make sure that the concerns of the Board had been addressed before moving forward. Chairman Thompson inquired as to the methodology employed to share the costs of the District Attorney’s Office with other Counties in the Judicial Circuit. Finance Director Leigh Jordan explained the manner in which the operational costs are charged back to Irwin, Turner and Worth Counties. Commissioner Rigdon stressed the importance of having the District Attorney’s Office located in Tift County. A Motion to approve the request for the Ford Explorer and accept the low bid from Griffin Ford in the amount of \$33,068.00 was made by Commissioner Rigdon and Seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. The Motion carried unanimously.
- I. Appointment of Tift County Development Authority Members:** The County Manager informed the Board that Mr. Brian Marlowe, Executive Director of the Tift County Development Authority, had sent correspondence informing the Board that the current terms of Mr. Norman “Red” Hill (Constitutional), Mr. Richard Golden (Constitutional) and Mr. Frankie Mathis (Statutory) on the Tift County Development Authority were set to expire in March of 2017. Mr. Marlowe advised that each of the 3 gentlemen had expressed a desire to continue their service on the respective Authorities and requested that the Board consider their reappointment for a new, five year term.

The Chair opened the floor for Nominations. Commissioner Hester Nominated Mr. Norman Hill for the Constitutional Authority. There were no additional Nominations. The Chair declared Nominations closed. Commissioner Hester made a Motion to reappoint Norman Hill to the Constitutional Authority and it was Seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. The Motion Carried unanimously.

The Board considered an appointment for a second seat on the Constitutional Authority. The Chair opened the floor for Nominations. Commissioner Hester Nominated Mr. Richard Golden for reappointment to the Constitutional Authority. There were no additional Nominations. The Chair closed Nominations. A Motion to reappoint Richard Golden to the Constitutional Authority was offered by Commissioner Hester and Seconded by Vice Chairman Setters. The Motion carried unanimously.

The Board considered an appointment to the Statutory Authority. The Chair opened the floor for Nominations. Commissioner Hester Nominated Mr. Frankie Mathis for reappointment to the Statutory Authority. There were no additional Nominations. The Chair closed Nominations. Commissioner Hester made a Motion to reappoint Mr. Frankie Mathis to the Tift County Development Authority (Statutory) and it was Seconded by Commissioner Wood. The Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER COMMENTS: The County Manager asked that the County Attorney inform the Board about a recent change in the law regarding the recording of plats with the Clerk of Superior Court. Mr. Rowell spoke to legislation that had been enacted to make the appearance of plats uniform across the State. Historically, there has been variance from jurisdiction to jurisdiction with respect to the types of plats that have been required to be recorded. However, the new statute will require a statement from the governing authority which indicates affirmatively if the recording was required by the same. If interpreted literally, every survey performed in the County would have to come through County Offices. In the short term, the Attorney advised that he and the County Manager would handle the process administratively and he would have the Manager certify the necessary documents so that the process could be moved forward. However, he indicated that he would be bringing back a Resolution which sets forth the categories which do and do not require County action.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Setters stated that in the period of time since the City of Tifton hired a new City Manager, he understood that there had been some meetings involving the equalization of water rates and discussion about the Fire Department. He asked the County Manager for an update concerning those meetings. Mr. Carter indicated that those discussions had been held as a part of a broader Service Delivery Strategy conversation which every County and city will be entering within the next year or so depending upon their individual cycles. A water rate study has been performed and returned to the City of Tifton. Former Interim City Manager Hunter Walker sent a powerpoint representation of that study out before he left and Mr. Carter advised that he would forward that to the Board. Commissioner Setters asked if that would contain the entire study. Mr. Carter said that

he did not have the entire study, only a few slide representation, but he had requested the entire study from the City. He then addressed the question relative to Fire and confirmed that there had been discussion concerning Fire services, duplication of services and special tax districts with City Manager Pyrzenski. Mr. Carter indicated that he felt as though there would be future discussions concerning the same.

Chairman Thompson expressed his gratitude to the Board for reappointing the members of the Development Authority. He commented that those 3 members were a large part of the recent successes of the Authority.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURN: A Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Rigdon and Seconded by Commissioner Stalnaker. The Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

Vice Chairman Robert Setters, District 3

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4

Commissioner F.W. "Buck" Rigdon, District 5

Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

Attest: _____
February 13, 2017