

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012 (6:00 p.m.)**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, at 5:30 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 Mike Jones, Donnie Hester, Sherry Miley, Buck Rigdon and Melissa Chevers.

Public Comments: None

Appointments:

1. Kenny Patel, Owner of Super 8 Motel had asked to address the Board but was not present.
2. Tom Carmichael was present to give a brief Audit Report. He thanked staff for their cooperative assistance in pulling documents to get the audit prepared. He gave a quick overview of the entire audit and gave each Board member a copy of the complete audit. He reported that at the end of FY 2011 the County has \$1.2 Million in surplus. He also told the Board that the County is at the recommended six month level in unreserved Fund Balance for expenditures. He stated that the Finance Staff is to be commended on the job they do, there were no correcting Journal Entries were needed and that is almost unheard of.

Informational Items for Discussion Only: Sunday Alcohol Sales

The County Manager reminded the Board that at a previous meeting a citizen addressed the Board requesting action by the Board for consideration to place Sunday Alcohol Sales on the ballot. Staff has received a few calls requesting if action was or will be taken by the Board. It will be a Board's decision as to whether to include this as an item on the Agenda for the Board's consideration to place on the ballot. Georgia law states that the Governing Authority will need to pass a resolution to be sent to the Election Superintendent requesting the question be put on the ballot to be voted on by the Tift County citizens.

Public Hearings: None

Items to be discussed for Regular Session on January 9, 2012:

A. Appoint County Attorney: The County Manager advised that this is a yearly appointment that the Board is required to make.

B. Appoint County Clerk: The County Manager advised that this is a yearly appointment that the Board is required to make.

C. Surplus the Old seating from the Courtroom: Jason Jordan told the Board that since the Courtroom in the Administration Building had been recently renovated the old theater type seating removed from the Courtroom has been put in storage but is of no use to the County and requested the Board surplus the seating and allow staff to place them on GovDeals.com for disposal.

D. Surplus of a Single Wide Mobile Home located at E. B. Hamilton Complex: Jason Jordan told the Board that the new Storage Building at the E. B. Hamilton Complex has been completed and the mobile home at the Complex had been used for storage and everything has now been transferred to the new facility. The mobile home is of no use to the County and would like for the Board to surplus the mobile home and allow staff to place it on GovDeals.com for disposal.

E. Harvest Timber at E. B. Hamilton Complex: Jason Jordan told the Board that staff has consulted with Ed Moore about harvesting the timber west of the soccer and football fields at E. B. Hamilton and he has estimated the timber will bring between five and seven thousand dollars. Cutting the timber will allow staff to proceed with further improvements at the complex. Mr. Moore is having timber companies look at the timber and staff will present the figures to the Board at the meeting on Monday night. The funds will go into the General Fund.

F. Selection for Architectural Services: Some Board members had some questions as to how the selection of the architect will be conducted now that they have made their presentations. After much discussion the Board directed staff and the County Attorney to meet with the two selected architects and go over what is expected of them. The County Attorney will review the RFP and make a recommendation to the Board at the February meeting.

G. Adoption of DOT Speed Zone Ordinance: Richard Burr, Public Works Superintendent advised the Board that periodically the Georgia Department of Transportation revised the speed zones on roads in the County. This requires local governing authorities to approve a DOT supplied list of speed zones for local law

enforcement to use radar speed detection devices.

H. Correction of Tax Collection Error: The County Manager advised that because of an error in the Tax Assessor’s office by failing to record the application for Conservation Use of property owned by Henry Ross Pittman, Jr./Ara Dodson Pittman Family Trust, taxes were over charges to the land owner for more than the three years allowed by law to be refunded by the Board of Assessors. The Governing Authority must vote to refund taxes for years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. The refund amount due to the landowners is \$11,692.82.

I. Security for the Administration Building – Coopercraft: The County Manager advised the Board that Coopercraft has installed new security systems in both the Courthouse and the Law Enforcement Center. The bid before you now for consideration would tie the remaining buildings into a seamless system. Upgrades to the current system need to be made in all the Administration Building Courtrooms, the Tax Commissioners Office as well as all exterior and interior doors. Because of some recent burglaries and fights at the recreation building the quote includes upgrades to the recreation buildings security as well. The total cost will be \$110,695.60 and will be paid from SPLOST funds.

County Manager Items:

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Chevers reminded everyone of the MLK Breakfast on Monday, January 16 at ABAC and the next One Street at a Time pick up is scheduled for January 14, 2012. She also thanked everyone for their prayers during her recent accident where she was burned.

Commissioner Miley commended staff for their hard work this past year especially the Road Department and Jason Jones. In 2012 she would like for us to review the Water Resolution and move toward the equalization of the rates and would like to see more done on the roads in the County.

Commissioner Rigdon will talk to the Mayor to get another person appointed to the Water Committee and try to get moving in the direction as requested on the water rates.

Commission Hester stated that the water rates are a concern of his and hopefully when the new official gets appointed we can move forward. He knows that it has been worked on but we will accomplish the task in this year.

Executive Session: None

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

Vice Chairman Robert Setters, District 3

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

Commissioner Sherry Miley, District 4

Commissioner F. W. (Buck) Rigdon, District 5

ATTEST:

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6

County Clerk 1/3/2012