

**REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, August 12, 2013 (6:00 P.M.)**

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman on Monday, August 12, 2013, at 6:00 P.M. in the Commission Meeting of the Administrative Building. Member of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Sherry Miley and Commissioners Donnie Hester, Buck Rigdon, Melissa Chevers, Mike Jones and Robert Setters.

Chairman Thompson asked County Attorney Tony Rowell to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

Minutes: Motion approving the minutes of July 2, 2013 Workshop Session, July 8, 2013 Regular Session; and July 24, 2013 Called Session was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers.

Public Comments:

Mr. Rueben Bennett was in the audience concerning a tax issue that was discussed at the Workshop Session in which the Board took under advisement for review and an opinion from the County Attorney. The County Attorney addressed the issue with the Board and Mr. Bennett and advised that he had not had sufficient research complete at this time and asked for consideration for the issue to be placed on the September Agenda. It was agreed that it would be an action item therefore the Clerk will place it on the September Agenda for action by the Board after the County Attorney gives opinion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

ADDITION TO AGENDA:

Purchase of 800 MHz P25 Radio System

Motion was made by Commissioner Rigdon to make the addition to the Agenda under the letter (I), seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Motion to waive fees for use of facility at Mott Littman Gym for an event sponsored by Stop the violence Community Leaders scheduled for August 17, 2013

B. Motion awarding the Signage and Striping Contract bid to Peek pavement in the amount of \$104,864.76 funded through the Georgia Department of Transportation

C. Motion to surplus three Dodger chargers from the sheriff Department and three Ford trucks from the Road Department

D. Motion approving the Emergency Operations Center Design and move forward with project

E. Motion authorizing the annual renewal of the Lease with Ruth's Cottage

F. Motion authorizing the annual renewal of Lease with Brookfield Community Club

Motion was made by Commissioner Hester approving the Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, E, and F, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:

G. Agreement with Tift Regional for Inmate Hospital Care: Motion to table for 30 days was made by Commissioner Rigdon, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Outsourcing Water Waste/Water Services: the County Manager went over the particulars as discussed in the Workshop Session. Commissioner Hester had a question about the last bullet on page 2 of the letter from ESG. It talks about any unexpended funds will be return to the City. The County Manager stated that it actually goes back into the Enterprise Fund and that wording can be cleaned up in the contract. Commissioner Jones commented on the over site for ESG going forward. It was advised that the day to day operations will be responsibility of ESG. The City/County can manage the over site through the agreement we have in place through the Service Delivery mechanism. The County Attorney stated that there are cost savings that can be captured by this outsourcing. The fundamental items we will continue to stay on top of and that other work has to be done which will be ongoing. Chairman Thompson stated that he was at the SDCC meeting and he says that nobody has looked after the system properly especially the sewage. There are some designs at the disposal plan have yet to be fixed. The biggest problem we have is fresh water getting into the sewage and this has to be corrected. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Miley to Outsource the Water/Waste Water Services to ESG and remove the billing issues at this time, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Purchase of 800 MHz P25 Radio System: Jason Jones, E-911 Director stated that Tift County currently operates a Motorola 4.1 analog/digital 800 MHz radio system. The system was purchased piece-meal and has operated for over 10 years. Motorola's "end-of-life" for this system was December 31, 2012. Consequently repair parts and technical support availability will soon diminish. The P25 Digital Radio system is currently the public safety interoperable industry standard for the Federal Government as well as the State of Georgia. The system is software based and will meet the county's public safety communication needs for the next 15 to 25 years eliminating costly hardware upgrades. Radio system deployment concurrent with the construction of the new E-911 facility offers a unique opportunity to set conditions for the future. The County Manager then discussed the Pricing Summary quoting the figures given to the Board for review. The System is \$4,367,074 less the Georgia State Contract price which is valid until 12/31/2013 of \$753,730, less some trade in on some equipment of \$38,272 and an incentive if purchased prior to 8/31/2013 in the amount of \$100,000 brings the total to \$3,475,072. Other things added into the total cost is \$209,325 for the city of Tifton Radio Flash Upgrades and \$36,710 for upgrades for the City of Omega and ABAC which brings to total cost for the P25 Radio System to \$3,721,107. Staff recommends the five (5) year Lease Purchase with payments in Arrears in the amount of \$805,342.56 per year. This system includes 1 through 5 years System Warranty and Maintenance at no cost. We are currently paying around \$70,000 per year for a maintenance contract so this will be some savings to the County.

Commissioner Jones wanted to know exactly what this purchase entails. He was advised by the representatives for the company that were present that it includes the consoles at 911, all backing equipment, hardware, software equipment at the tower site at the Sheriff's office and a complete refresh of all equipment. The radios that we now have will continue to be utilized and brought up to the new system. The only radios going out of service are the radios at the Road Department; those will be replaced.

Commissioner Chevers asked if the County Manager had been back to the City of Tifton for their decision on their cost of the system which is \$209,325. The County Manager has been in conversations with them but no definite answer has come from them at this time.

Some Commissioners felt they needed some more time to go over the book and maybe have some more questions answered before voting on this sizable purchase. Since it was not on the Workshop Agenda, the Board feels that we could have a called Meeting before the end of the month in order to still get the incentive discount of \$100,000. After some further discussion concerning the payments and interest rate, the Board was still of the opinion to have a called Board Meeting before the end of the month.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Miley to table this item until the Board can set a called meeting date to take action on this item, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board agreed to have a Called Board Meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2013 at 6 PM to take action on this matter. The Clerk will advertise the meeting and post the Agenda.

County Manager Comments: None

Commissioners Comments: None

Executive Session: None

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Setters, seconded by Commissioner Miley. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

Vice Chairman Sherry Miley, District 4

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist. 3

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

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6

Attest: _____
Glynda Hemby, County Clerk
8/12/2013