

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, February 4, 2014 (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, February 4, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Miley and Commissioners Robert Setters, Mike Jones, Donnie Hester, Buck Rigdon and Melissa Chevers.

Public Comments: None

Appointments:

1. Ricky Justice, Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Board has asked to address the Commissioners. Mr. Justice was not present. The County Manager advised that he has talked with Mr. Justice and has arranged a meeting for him to meet with the Zoning Board and the Southern Regional Commission staff to try and resolve some issues they have. He will report back to the Board.

Public Hearings: None

Items to be discussed for Regular Session on February 10, 2014:

A. West Haven Sr. Village Phase II: Carl Fortson gave the history of this request stating that in 2009 the Board approved a Letter of Support for Phase I which consists of 40 residential units which included a proposal for Phase II. A second Letter of Support is being requested now for Phase II to complete the facility and the letter will be sent to DCA along with the package for the application for funding. Joseph Carter and Mandy Young were present to discuss Phase II with the Board and to answer any questions they may have. This Phase is directly South of Phase I. They were asked about the occupancy rate and Ms. Young stated that there is always a waiting list. Phase I is completely full and they have very little turnover. The residents have an annual renewal.

B. Antivirus Software Renewal: Al Stephenson advised the Board that this is the annual Renewal to protect sensitive data and insure the integrity of the data housed on county server and workstations. The maintenance contract for support and software assurance is up for renewal in March 2014. The renewal amount has been included in the budget in the amount of \$7,578.

C. Hardware Maintenance Agreement: Al Stephenson reminded the Board that in 2010 the IT Department installed an enterprise virtual server solution comprising of 4 high speed Dell switches, 3 Dell Poweredge Servers and 2 Dell Equallogic Data arrays. Currently 80% of Tift County server applications are hosted on this equipment. Since this equipment makes up the core of Tift County's IT infrastructure a maintenance agreement with Dell is needed. This contract provides 24 x 7 telephone support with a 4 hour response time for parts delivery should a hardware problem arise. Staff recommends renewing the service agreement for the equipment as outlined in the amount of \$9,577.10 which is a budgeted item.

D. Voting Machine Purchase: Sandi Fallin, Elections Director was present to discuss the purchase of new voting machines for the County. The Board of Elections request the approval to purchase 8 new voting units at a cost of \$1,440 each and 2 memory cards at a cost of \$170.50 each. The funds have been allotted in the budget. These machines will be placed in our Advanced Voting room to replace the older machines. The replaced machines will be placed into rotation to the other precincts. The total amount is \$11,770.

E. Award Bid for Public Works Paving Parking Lot: Jason Jordan advised that this is almost the final stage of the New Public Works Facility. Bids were advertised and opened on the designated date. Three bids were received and staff is recommending awarding the bid to The Scruggs Company in the low bid amount of \$105,955.89 which will be paid from SPOST IV.

F. Recommendations from the Road Committee: Jason Jordan advised that a Road Committee meeting was held and the following is the recommendation that came from that meeting. Approval to allow the County Road Department to set up 9 short roads to be paved with surface treatment which will be 2.25 miles to be paid from SPLOST V. The roads to be paved are Smith Court, Hayes Circle, Karen Drive, Sahrah Circle, Kathryn Drive, Creekwood Drive, Needle Road, Hines Road and Wiggins Road all which would impact over 75 County residents. The expected expenditure is \$350,000.

G. Adopt Resolution Recognizing the ACCG's Centennial Occasion: ACCG is celebrating its centennial this year and they have asked all 159 Counties in Georgia to adopt a Resolution commending the Association County Commissioners of Georgia on the Occasion of its Centennial. A model Resolution has been provided and they ask that a particular WHEREAS paragraph be added by each County.

H. Petition from Vendors for Sunday Alcohol Sales to be place on Ballot: The County Clerk advised that

since the City had passed Sunday Alcohol Sales within the City Limits of Tifton and during Alcohol License renewal time, many of the businesses in the County have inquired to when the County might expect to be able to do the same. Many of these stores are losing their business customers when they can go someplace else and purchase alcohol on Sunday. A petition was prepared and a few of the business owners went around and obtained signatures from business owners in favor of presenting the petition to the Board for consideration to place on the ballot. More than half of the businesses in the County have placed their name on the petition. There are three corporate businesses; Love's Travel Stops, Dollar General and Pilot Truck Stops that the signatures were not obtainable from the local stores as they were told the signature would have to come for the Corporate Offices. The County Attorney gave some discussion on the Resolution that would need to be prepared for the question to be placed on the ballot and the timeframe in which that would need to be done.

I. Personnel Issues: Mike Walker, Human Resource Director was ill and not able to attend this meeting to make this presentation to the Board. In his absence, the County Attorney gave the explanation of this issue. Many provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) became effective in January of 2014 with many more to become effective in 2015 with a corresponding "look back" period that spans the 2014 calendar year. Several Federal Agencies are working collectively to establish coordinated regulations and other administrative guidance to assist stakeholders with the implementation of the PPACA. One of the changes will be how we provide benefits for part time employees. Staff recommends that the Board authorize the Human Resources Department in consultation with the County Manager to make necessary adjustments to the associated benefit structure as situations dictate in order to ensure compliance with the new laws.

J. Renewal of Tift Lift Contract: The County Manager advised that this is a Resolution that is required by the Department of Transportation to be executed and made part of the County's grant application for the Tift Lift System. In order to comply with the requirements for funding the Resolution needs to be adopted by the Board so that state and federal grant assistance can be utilized in the operation of the Tift Lift Transit Program.

County Manager Comments: Yield time to the County Attorney. He reported to the Board where we stand with the Solid Waste Request for Proposals. Staff from both the City and the County has met several times along with the County Attorney and there will be some more meetings. He feels that once some issues have been agreed upon then it would be advantageous to set up a meeting with the Service Delivery Coordinating Committee to discuss the issues, get some things ironed out and put it before that committee for a recommendation to come to both governmental bodies. Staff will keep the Board updated as things unfold with this issue.

Commissioner's Comments:

Commissioner Chevers told the Board that Saturday, February 8 is the date set for the "Sock It To Em, With Love" Project. It will be held at Copeland Park and she invited everyone to attend. All the collected socks will be distributed at this event. She also thanked Craig Sowell for all his help in this project.

Executive Session: None

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

Vice Chairman Sherry Miley, District 4

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3

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

ATTEST:

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6

County Clerk 2/4/2014