

**WORKSHOP SESSION**  
**TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY, March 3, 2015 (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, March 3, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the Commission present were Vice Chairman Hester and Commissioners Robert Setters, Greg Wood, Buck Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes.

**Public Comments: None**

**Appointments:**

1. Al Potts with the Georgia Forestry Commission was present and gave the 2014 Annual Report. He discussed things such as prescribed burning training, wildfires, fire causes, number of permits issued, pre-suppression plowing, burning assistance and seedling sales. A handout of the complete report was given to each Commissioner.

**Public Hearings: None**

**Items to be discussed for Regular Session, March 9, 2015**

**A. Resurface 2/10 of a mile of Carrington Drexler Road:** The County Manager provided the Board with the information for this request. The Department of Transportation is in the process of up grading the Brighton Road Interchange and in doing so they relocated a portion of Carrington Drexler Road. There is a small portion of the paved section that was not included in the DOT Project. Staff feels that while the contractor is on site it would be beneficial to resurface the remaining 2/10 of the road so that the transition from new to old is the same and make it safer since the old section is in bad shape. The Scruggs Company has agreed to use the same unit price for the materials and labor that was submitted for the DOT Project. The cost is \$66,700.45 and can be funded through SPLOST V.

**B. In Town Recreation Maintenance Building:** The County Manager advised that the old maintenance building for the Recreation Department was located on the lot where the new 911 Center is being built. Staff has solicited bids for a new building to be erected on the lot beside the Recreation Department. Three bids were: Excelsior Buildings \$36,360; Jones Construction \$57,106 and Tucker Brothers \$53,700. Staff recommends awarding the bid to Excelsior Building in the low bid amount of \$36,360.

**C. Resolution authorizing submission of a Grant Application to the GDOT:** The County Manager advised that it is time for submission of a grant application to the Georgia Department of Transportation to continue under the DOT 5311 Transit Program. Tift Lift is run through this program. This year both of the Tift Lift vans becomes 5 years old or logs 100,000 which require replacement and the replacement falls within the Tift County 2016 Fiscal Year Budget. The capital expenditures such as vehicles and radio equipment are provided by an 80% DOT Federal Grant, a 10% DOT State Grant and 10% is provided by Tift County. The two new vehicles will cost \$90,983 with the County's share being \$9,098. The Resolution to submit the grant application for this program must be adopted by the Board.

**D. Revenue Bond for Tift County Development Authority:** The County Manager and the County Attorney discussed this issue with the Board. The Development Authority has held a Public Hearing for the purpose of issuing a Revenue Bond in the amount of \$7,600,000 for enhancements to the Blanching Facility to Tifton Quality Peanuts. The Development Authority has already voted to issue the bond. As the Chairman is the highest elected official in the county the IRS requires his signature on the Resolution approving the issuance of the Bond but he also needs approval from the Commission Board to sign the required Resolution. Furthermore the IRS requires the County clerk in her Official capacity to certify said Resolution and the signature of the Chairman of the Board. The County Attorney advised that this is a requirement of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, Section 147 (f). He also advised the Board that if the Development Authority fails on the Bond Issuance in no way will the Tift County Board of Commissioners be held responsible for these Bonds.

**E. Revenue Bond approvals by TCDA and County Officials required signatures:** The County Attorney has drafted a Resolution for future issuance of bonds by the Development Authority and by adopting the purposed Resolution the item would not need to come before this Board in the future however, after careful review of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Section 147 (f), it requires the certification of the County Clerk and in order for her to certify a document, it must come before the Board of Commissioners. Staff recommends removing this item from the Agenda.

**F. Tift County Mass Notification System:** Jason Jones, EMA Director advised the Board that Tift County's current mass notification system is provided by CodeRed. The system is over-priced and functionally inadequate to meet our current and emerging needs. Staff has conversed with Everbridge to provide this service for Tift County. It will be less than half the cost we are now paying and offers unlimited minutes and has a lot more functionality. He explained that everyone will have to sign up again but Emergency

Management staff will be available to help everyone with the transition. Changing over will also allow staff to clean up our system's data such as no longer functioning numbers. Everbridge will offer 2 months free to get us to renewal date with the current company. This system is paid for from a GEMA grant. Staffs recommend selecting Everbridge as our mass notification vendor and leverage their technological and functional features to meet the emergency preparedness needs of our community. The cost for the system is \$11,000.

**G. Vehicle for Tift County Emergency Management:** The County Manager advised that the Emergency Management Staff are on call 24/7. There are three staff member and only two vehicles in that department. Staff the purchase of a F-150 Special Service 4 x4, crew cab and trailer towing package vehicle from Griffin Ford in the amount of \$28,875. A total of 5 bids were received for this vehicle with the difference in the low price between Allan Vigil Ford and Griffin Ford being on \$167.00. Since Griffin Ford is local and falls within the low bid of the County's established 3% to purchase local, staff recommends Griffin Ford.

**County Manager Comments:** Yield time to IT Director, Al Stephenson for explanation of two Agenda items that Staff will be requesting the Board to Amend the Agenda on Monday night to add these two items.

**Antivirus Software Renewal:** The Board was advised of the number of workstations and servers running a wide range of applications for Tift County. In order to continue to protect sensitive data and insure the integrity of the data housed on the servers and workstations antivirus and security software should be maintained. Sophos antivirus has been implemented and installed on all workstations and servers and has proven to be effective in protecting these devices from viruses and malware therefore staff recommends the renewal of the antivirus software with Sophos in the amount \$6,900.

**Hardware Maintenance:** The Board was advised that the current hardware maintenance agreement is with Dell. The contract provides 24 x7 telephone support with a 4 hour response time for parts delivery should a hardware problem arise. It is time to renew the maintenance agreement. The county is in need of equipment upgrades and money has been allotted through SPLOST V. Dell has agreed to continue the maintenance contract until November 2015 at a cost of \$2,892.42 to cover the current equipment. This will allow staff ample time to make the need equipment upgrades which staff will be bring back to the Board for approval.

**Commissioner's Comments:** None

**Executive Session:** None

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

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Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, District 1

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Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3

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Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4

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

ATTEST:

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Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

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County Clerk 3/3/2015