

**WORKSHOP SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, October 5, 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 Monday, October 5, 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:**

**Appointments:** None

**Public Hearings:** None

**Items to be discussed for Regular Session, October 12, 2015**

**A. Plant TiftNet Fiber Contract:** The County Manager advised this is a budgeted item. The contract with Plant TiftNet provides the fiber optics the County utilizes to access servers running a variety of applications for daily work and it also provides internet connectivity. The contract is yearly in the amount of \$5,576.32 per month.

**B. Purchase of New EMS Ambulance:** Andy Smith, Interim EMS Director advised the County currently is down 2 units. M-4 is out of service due to a blown engine but is 9 years old and M-9 is 11 years and the floor is rotted out of the box. He has solicited bids for the purchase of a new unit. He recommends purchasing a new ambulance for immediate use in Tift County because the fleet should optimally be at 7 units and we are currently operating with only 5 units. He also recommends that we try and replace units every 5 years as they become more expensive to repair. The low bid is from Excellance, Inc. which we have never done business with before but they are the Cadillac of all ambulances. It comes with a 25 year warren on the box and the box can be remounted. The bid price is \$147,118.61. The recommendation is to purchase the demo unit now and get another ambulance on order which will take around 90 days before it could be ready for purchase. The ambulance will be funded through SPLOST. There was some other information requested from the Board member and this will be further discussed at the Regular Meeting.

**C. Award Bid for the 2016 LMIG Project:** Jason Jordan advised that the 2016 LMIG Project had been properly advertised and bids opened. This year the project will cover 10 miles, normally it is around 6 miles. The roads include Hall Road, Isabelle/Nashville Road and William Gibbs Road. Funding will come from GDOT with the remainder from SPLOST V. The low bid came from Reeves Construction in the amount of \$1,097,866.10 with the County's portion of that being \$586,866.10.

**D. Award Bid for the 2016 Road Patching Project:** Jason Jordan advised that this project was also properly advertised and bids opened. This project consist of a number of roads in the southern part of Tift County that has been cut by the City of Tifton in repairing water and sewer lines and were never repair dot standards. The low bid is from the Scruggs Company in the amount of \$324,183.42 and will be funded from SPLOST V

**E. Updates of Rental Agreement for the Neighborhood Service Center:** Mr. Carter gave the report and explained some problems still continuing with the renting of the Neighborhood Service Center. The deposit on the rental fee was recently raised by the Board to \$300. The Center is a community hub on the south side of Tifton/Tift County providing public meeting space for numerous public events and can also be rented for private events. It was never intended to be a revenue generator but simply a service provided to the community. The Center cost the County roughly \$19,000 a year to operate. Staff believes it makes sense to operate the center as cost effectively as possible which includes no longer utilizing a facility superintendent but have pre-rental and post-rental inspections. This change will cut the operating cost slightly and staff will continue to work to maximize dollars budgeted by the Commissioner to keep the Center in the best condition possible. There was much discussion on this issue, staff will look into some of the questions proposed by the Board and give a further report at the Regular Meeting.

**F. Purchasing Policy:** The purchasing policy has been reviewed by the County Attorney. This policy shall govern all contracts and purchasing in Tift County. The spending thresholds are set out with the intent to allow the County Manger, Finance Director and staff to purchase operational items and services in a cost effective way with the least administrative burden for the county, while allowing the Board to continue to have oversight and decision making authority on all other matters. The Policy also includes reporting requirements at every Commission Meeting updating the Board last met in official session

**Commissioner's Comments:**

**County Manager's Comments:** None

**Executive Session:** Motion was made by Commissioner Hughes to go into Executive Session for Personnel seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to close Executive Session was made by Commissioner Wood, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rigdon to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Wood. Motion carried unanimously.

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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 10/5/2015