

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, December 8, 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, December 8, 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:

Public Hearings:

A. Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: Jason Jones advised that the Board approved the current Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2012 that is a requirement for federal funding in the event of a disaster. Also approved was a GEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant and voted to contract with H & H Resources to update the plan which has been completed. The updated plan will take effect in 2017. A Public Hearing is required which has been advertised and will be held at the Regular Meeting.

Items to be discussed for Regular Session, December 14, 2015

B. Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Position Funding: Jodie Spooner with the District's Attorney's office stated that currently the Victims Assistance has 2 Victims of Crime Act grant funded positions that are County paid and grant reimbursed. Recently the District Attorney received a grant award for a 3rd Victim Advocate. This award was not known during budget preparations and therefore the up-front County funding was not allocated in the FY 16 budget. Approval is being sought to fund the new position with the understanding that all County expenditures will be reimbursed quarterly. The total position cost and grant award inclusive of all salary & benefits to include FICA, Insurance, Work Comp and retirement is \$54,400. The approval of this will also need to include a Budget Amendment.

C. Approval of Design for New Fire Station: Jason Jones reported at a previously meeting the Board authorized the construction of a new Fire Station. The station is located at the Airport and will house full time personnel and equipment assigned to Tift County Fire/Rescue. The design was completed by Gregory & Associates. The cost came in over budget and the Board suggested that staff get together with Gregory & Associates and see if some things could be cut out or reduced to bring it within budget. Staff will report back at the Regular Meeting.

D. Fire/Rescue Professional Services Contract: Jason Jones reported that staff has taken the necessary steps to meet the intent of the Board to have an established County Fire Department operational by July 1, 2016. It is imperative that quality personnel be hired. Staff has selected Captain (Retired) Kenneth Gallagher to serve and assist the department as an independent contractor (flat fees/no benefits) assisting in the establishment of the department. He also noted that Mr. Gallagher may transition to full time employment as Deputy Fire Chief on July 1, 2016.

E. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with GEMA: Jason Jones explained that the Department of Public Safety has coordinated with the Director of the GEMA Agency to develop a memorandum of agreement concerning the use of the Tift County Emergency Operations Center by GEMA. The facility would be occupied by members of GEMA for pre-disaster training and command/control of response/recovery operations during a disaster or emergency in southern Georgia. This partnership will enhance the emergency response capabilities of Tift County.

F. Department of Public Safety Ordinance: Jason Jones explained that Article IV of this Ordinance is required by the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council prior to the formal establishment of a state recognized fire department.

G. Purchase of a new Telephone System for E-911: Due to some further research needed on this item, staff is requesting that this item be removed from the Agenda.

H. Behavioral Health Lease: Effective November 3, 2015, the CEO of Behavioral Health Services of South Georgia gave Tift County formal notice to cancel the lease for the property located at 340 Tifton Eldorado Road which has been occupied by Behavioral Health for a number of years. They will no longer occupy this facility but will continue to occupy the building located at 334 Tifton Eldorado Road. They have presented a prorated rent for the remaining facility in the amount of \$4,400 per month. The County would lose \$14,400 in rental revenue from the vacated space the \$4,400 monthly rental rate appears reasonable.

I. Credit Card Ordinance & User Agreement for Elected Officials: The County Manager advised that during the 2015 Legislative Session the General Assembly passed HB 192 which changed the use of county

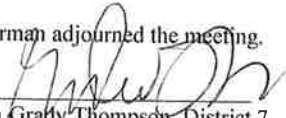
issued purchasing cards and credit cards by County Elected Officials. Effective January 1, 2016, if any of your County Elected Officials use either card then the Board of Commissioners needs to make sure that it has adopted a policy/ordinance that meets the new law and has publicly voted to authorize the Elected Officials to use the County card and has entered into a User Agreement with each authorized Elected Official. The County has a separate policy in place that covers County employees' use of credit cards.

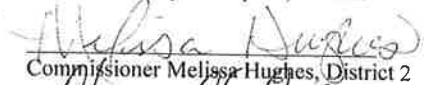
Commissioner's Comments: None


County Manager's Comments: None

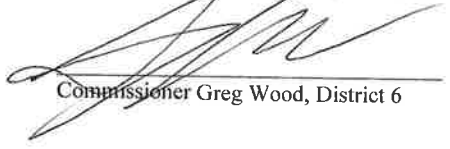
Executive Session: None

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.



Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

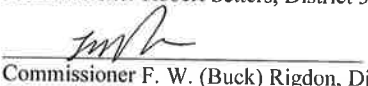

Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2


Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4


Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6


Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, District 1


Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3


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

ATTEST:

County Clerk 12/8/2015