

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2017**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, July 3, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Charles Kent Administration Building. Members of the Commission present in addition to Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Robert Setters and Commissioners Greg Wood, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, and Stan Stalnaker. Commissioner Melissa Hughes was present via telephone.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dave Hetzel with Save Our Pets was present to inform the Commissioners of the rescue work being done. Prior to December 1, 2015, the average intake of dogs was 159 per month and the average euthanizations was 91 per month. Since the start of their rescue program on December 1, 2015, the average number of euthanizations has reduced to 38 which is a 58% reduction.

Leah Robins and Candace Hernandez are volunteer workers at the Animal Shelter and also run a rescue organization. County Manager Jim Carter recognized these ladies for all their work with the animals in Tift County.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. Courtney Sheeley, PIO for Department of Public Health, was present to speak to the Commissioners regarding the ZIKA Virus. Ms. Sheeley reported that there have only been travel related cases in Georgia. Ms. Sheeley shared with the Board the symptoms and ways to protect against the virus.

Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon thanked Commissioner Robert Setters for his efforts in trying to bring the City and the County together in their negotiations.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT REGULAR SESSION, JULY 10, 2017:

- A. **Agreement with Chad Alexander, Tax Commissioner:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that this agreement was the Tax Commissioner's fee for collecting taxes from the City of Tifton. A total of 2.5% of the taxes collected would be their fee. Of this percentage, 1.25% would be payable to the Tax Commissioner. The Board indicated its desire to place Item "A" on the Consent Agenda.
- B. **Agreement with Tift County Health Department for SNS:** County Manager Jim Carter stated this agreement gives authority for the Tift County Health Department to act as a partnership with the Board of Commissioners upon the deployment of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). The SNS is based on the assumption that a manmade or natural disaster may deplete our local medication and/or medical supplies. As part of this agreement, preparedness, planning, response and recovery are required. County Manager Carter stated that the preparedness and

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planning is already being done. The Board indicated its desire to place Item "B" on the Consent Agenda.

- C. **Speed Zone Changes of SR 520:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that these speed zone changes are requested by GDOT. This ordinance will include the speed change of SR 520 from 55 MPH to 65 MPH from MP 12.21 to 16.8 and MP 18.04 to MP 18.67. The Board indicated its desire to place Item "C" on the Consent Agenda.
- D. **Alcohol Beverage License Application Submitted by Asma Sarfraz:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that the County has received an Alcohol Beverage License Application from Asma Sarfraz for a Retail Malt Beverage Package and Retail Wine Package licenses to be sold at CITGO located at 2106 South Main Street, Tifton, Georgia. The Tift County Sheriff has conducted his investigation and recommends approval. The Board indicated its desire to place Item "D" on the Consent Agenda.
- E. **Agreement with GEMA for EMA:** EMA Director Vickie Hickman stated that this agreement allows the County to participate in the Emergency Evacuation Shelter Initiative (EESI). Tift County has been part of this initiative since 2012. If approved, the agreement would extend until August 31, 2020. The Board indicated its desire to place Item "E" on the Consent Agenda.
- F. **Approval of 2018 LMIG Projects:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan proposed that the following roads be included in the 2018 LMIG – Tifton Eldorado Rd (6.44 miles); Omega Eldorado Rd (2.75 miles); Portion of Union Rd from the Cook County line to Omega Eldorado Rd (2 miles); and Slack Dr., Sarah Dr., Melba Dr., Pine Need Place and Westover Road (2 miles). The Board indicated its desire to place Item "F" on the Consent Agenda.
- G. **Agreement with GEMA for Donation of CAMET Trailer:** Animal Control Director Brandi Conway stated that GEMA was willing to donate a 2013 never used CAMET trailer to the Animal Shelter. However, there are a few issues with the MOU that need to be worked out. County Manager Jim Carter stated he would call GEMA to work out the details before the Commission Meeting on July 10th.
- H. **Appointment to South Georgia Community Service Board – Behavioral Health:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that this appointment would be filling the unexpired term of Dennis Daniel. The term would expire June 2018. County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that one application has been received for this appointment – Elizabeth O’Rear.
- I. **Appointment to Board of Elections and Registration:** County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that a letter has been received from the Board of Elections and Registration asking that Stephanie McKee be reappointed to their board. This would be a four (4) year term expiring in July 2021.

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- J. **Appointments to Planning & Zoning Board:** County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that two (2) reappointments were needed – Ricky Justice and Randy Clements. These terms will expire June 2022. Also, three members of the Board have chosen not to seek reappointment – Terri Bowers, Gene Fandel and Ronald Nixon. Two applications have been received for these vacancies – Henry Taylor and Zach Crumley. If all these appointments are made, there will still be one vacancy on the Board.
- K. **Appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals:** County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that three (3) reappointments are needed – Luther Overstreet, Tony McBrayer and Tim Butler. These terms will expire July 2022.

COUNTY MANAGER’S COMMENTS:

County Manager Jim Carter wished everyone a Happy Fourth.

COUNTY CLERK’S COMMENTS:

County Clerk Miriam Jordan informed the Board of Commissioners that there will be a Called Session on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 6 pm to set the millage rate.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker congratulated Leila Dollison for appointment to Elections Supervisor.

Commissioners Fred “Buck” Rigdon and Donnie Hester asked for clarification of who was the committee that was supposed to be talking with the City. Initially, it was understood that Commissioners Donnie Hester, Fred “Buck” Rigdon and Stan Stalnaker were to meet the City and did. Good progress was made. After further discussion, Commissioner Rigdon yielded his position on this committee so that Commissioner Robert Setters could participate. Commissioner Rigdon feels that Commissioner Setters has invaluable information and research needed.

County Attorney Anthony Rowell updated the Commissioners on TSPLOST. It is unclear at this time if the referendum will be held in November 2017 or March 2018. It seems to all depend on whether Ware County calls for an individual referendum instead of a regional one. Mr. Rowell is still investigating this. This could mean the SPLOST and TSPLOST will be on the same ballot. The Commission will need to think about this. The call for the referendum will need to be made in August.

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ADJOURN:

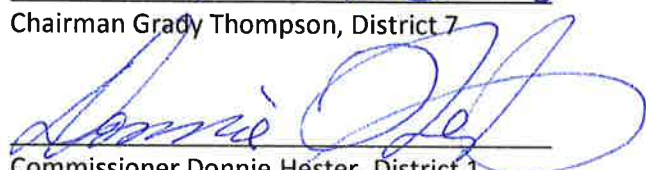
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.



Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7



Vice Chairman Robert Setters, District 3



Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1



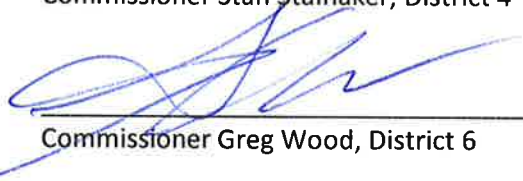
Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2



Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4

Absent

Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5



Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

ATTEST: 

August 14, 2017