

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Tony McBrayer on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 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 McBrayer were Commissioners Paul Webb, Donnie Hester, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes. Commissioner Greg Wood was absent.

Commissioner Paul Webb led in Prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were none to report.

APPOINTMENTS:

There were none to report.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were none to report.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT REGULAR SESSION, NOVEMBER 8, 2021 MEETING:

- 5.1 **Agreement with CooperCraft for Security System Software & Equipment Services & Support:** IT Director Al Stephenson stated that the County utilizes video surveillance as well as automatic door locking technology to insure employee and public safety. This technology is currently being utilized at the Law Enforcement Center, Administration Building, Recreation, EMS, Juvenile Court and the Courthouse building. CooperCraft has quoted a support agreement that would cover all S2 server and node hardware and Avigilon security camera server hardware. The agreement provides 8 am – 5 pm weekday support and 24/7 emergency support of these systems. As part of the agreement, CooperCraft will perform quarterly backups and health checks on both the S2 and Avigilon systems. This agreement is for eight (8) months and will run through June 30, 2022. The cost is \$22,000 and is a budgeted expenditure. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.2 **Maintenance Agreement for Eaton UPS Equipment:** It Director Al Stephenson stated that Tift County's EOC building houses critical information technology services as well as emergency services including 911 and Emergency Management Operations. This building was designed to allow these services to operate without interruption during a disaster. One critical piece of equipment that protects from electrical outages is an Eaton 93PM UPS. This equipment provides online battery support for the 911 operations room as well as the data server room. In the event of a power outage, the UPS provides power for these functions to continue until the building's backup generator starts up and begins providing power to the building. Tift County also has an Eaton UPS 9PX system in the radio tower to keep the radio equipment functioning should a power outage occur. A maintenance agreement for these units is vital to insure this equipment is functioning properly and will cover potential expensive repairs should an equipment failure

WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

occur. The cost is \$7,516 and is a budgeted expenditure. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.

- 5.3 **Approval of E&Rs for Tax Commissioner:** Tax Commissioner Chad Alexander stated that he is requesting that 2021 taxes for two (2) mobile homes and three (3) parcels of property be written off because in these years the properties were owned by the City of Tifton and the Development Authority. The total amount to be written off is \$1,503.74. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.4 **Agreement with Georgia Mass Appraisal Solutions & Services, Inc. for Appraisal Services:** Chief Appraiser Hayward Becton and Board of Assessors Chairman Dr. Jeff Gibbs presented this item. The last County wide reevaluation was in 2003. The proposed reevaluation is needed to correct sales ratios that are regulated by the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) and audited each year by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA). The DOR allows for ratio studies to fall within a range of 36% to 44%. Property is taxed on 40% of the Fair Market Value. The 2020 Sales Ratio reported by the DOAA resulted in a ratio of 34.85% for Tift County. Ratios below 40% are an indication that our Fair Market Values are too low. The billing of taxes for public utilities is driven by the annual DOAA ratio study. If the ratio study indicated a ratio of 38% or higher, we can bill public utilities at 40% of the State assessed fair market value. If this ratio falls below 38%, we must bill the public utilities at the ratio reported in the DOAA ratio study. Two (2) companies were contacted directly inviting them to bid on the service and it was also listed on the Georgia Procurement Website. Georgia Mass was the only responder. The cost is \$685,000 and would be an FY23 expenditure. County Attorney Anthony Rowell stated that the agreement needed a few minor revisions and would try to have those before the Board votes on Monday. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.5 **Purchase of Vehicle for Animal Control:** Animal Control Director Candace Hernandez stated that Brannen Motors has a 2021 Ford F150 coming in December for a cost of \$33,400. This is \$2,528 over budget. County Manager Jim Carter stated that if the Animal Control budget could not absorb the overage then funds would come from contingency. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.6 **Approval of FY22 LMIG Resurfacing Project:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that staff recommends the following roads for the FY22 LMIG – Chula Whiddon Mill Road, Academy Drive, Jack Bankston, Chula Brookfield Road (Hwy 125 to Hwy 41) and Early Hutchinson (Zion Hope to Whiddon Mill). The estimated cost of construction is \$1,500,000. Funds would come from LMIG and SPLOST VI. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.7 **Approval of Road Paving Project:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that staff proposes that the following roads be paved/resurfaced: MLK, O'Quinn, Berry Lane, Crescent Drive, Griffin Street, Brighton Road (Hwy 125 to I-75) and Zion Hope Road (Moore Hwy to Hwy 41). After discussion, Emerson O'Bynes South of Golden Road and Wilson Avenue from King to Central Avenue were added. With these additions, estimated cost of construction is \$380,000. Funding will come from TSPLOST. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.

WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

- 5.8 **Keep Tift Beautiful Appointment:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that the term for Christopher Burchell has expired. Mr. Burchell wishes to be reappointed. This would be a four (4) year term. No other applications have been received. Mrs. Jordan also notified the Board that there is one (1) additional vacancy on KTB. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:

- 6.1 **Installation of Rumble Strips on EB Hamilton Road at its Intersection with Rutland Road:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that within the last year the fencing at EB Hamilton has been damaged several times resulting in costly repairs. Staff will be installing rumble strips on EB Hamilton Road at its intersection with Rutland Road to help prevent some of the accidents from occurring.

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

County Manager Jim Carter provided further explanation to the Board regarding an email he sent earlier about recreation upgrades. Mr. Carter stated that he needs a brief Executive Session to discuss personnel.

County Clerk Miriam Jordan reminded Board members of the ACCG Conference in Savannah next week. She also stated that the annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at Noon.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS:

There were none to report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Melissa Hughes stated the Forestry Commission Luncheon was very informative. She thanked staff for the intersection improvements at Southern Avenue and Hwy 41. She asked if shrubs could be planted at that intersection. She also expressed her concerns about the lack of a relationship with other local governments and the school board. She asked that all work on strengthening these relationships.

Chairman Tony McBryer read a thank you note received from the Tax Commissioners Office regarding the COVID pay. He also stated that American Textiles is moving their Components Units to Tift County and adding two (2) more production lines to their existing facility. This will result in approximately 75 more jobs.

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel. Motion seconded by Commissioner Paul Webb. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0 with the Chairman voting.

ADJOURN:

There being no further discussion, the Work Session was adjourned.




Chairman Tony McBrayer, District 7



Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4



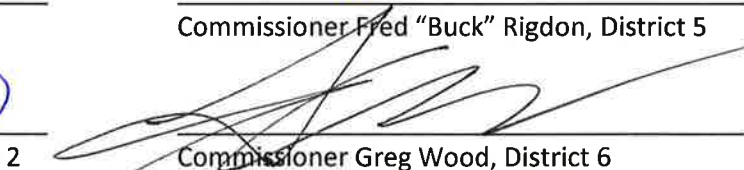
Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1



Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5




Vice Chairperson Melissa Hughes, District 2



Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6



Commissioner Paul Webb, District 3

ATTEST: 

December 13, 2021