

**WORKSHOP SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Tony McBrayer on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 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, Greg Wood, Donnie Hester, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes led in Prayer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Deborah Hoffman, 1902 Youmans Street, thanked Jason Jordan and the County for work that has already been done in her neighborhood. She asked for an update of what is yet to be done in that area.

Julie Lester, 139 Mill Ridge Circle, thanked the County for information that has been put out about LOST but feels the information made vague claims and innuendos.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

There were none to report.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

There were none to report.

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT REGULAR SESSION, DECEMBER 12, 2022 MEETING:**

- 5.1 **Backup and Recovery Software/Hardware:** IT Director Al Stephenson stated that data backup is an essential part of insuring data integrity and security. The current agreement for backup services expires January 2023. Multiple vendors were contacted and a review of their products and capabilities was conducted over the last few months. Staff recommends ThinkGard's solution which provides all of the needed requirements for backup and recovery. ThinkGard's solution not only backs up all data to a local appliance but also replicates the data to two (2) offsite storage facilities – East and West Coast. It will also double backup capacity for future expansion, provides monitoring and testing on a daily basis, gives more enhanced recovery options for email and allows critical servers to be recovered in less than five (5) minutes. This would be a three (3) year contract. Cost the initial year is \$33,286 and \$25,176 for years two (2) and three (3). The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
  
- 5.2 **Obligation of ARPA Funds:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that currently there are \$144,732 of unobligated ARPA funds. Staff is requesting that this amount be obligated towards the Phillipsburg/Unionville CDBG Drainage Project. Also, the Board has previously obligated \$200,000 for a hydrology study for the Phillipsburg/Unionville Drainage Project. The study has been completed and the cost was \$31,513.75. Therefore, \$168,486.25 needs to be deobligated for the hydrology study. Staff recommends deobligating that amount and obligating it to the

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Phillipsburg/Unionville CDBG Drainage Project. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.

- 5.3 **Tift County CDBG Project West Phillipsburg Community:** Public Works Director Jason Jordan stated that two (2) bids were received for this project. Hancock and Sons Construction was the low bidder for \$6,719,579.22. Mr. Jordan wanted stated for the record that this work will not prevent flooding during a major flood event. The Chairman needs to be authorized to execute the Notice of Award and Construction Agreement. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.4 **Fire Training Center Facility Use Agreement:** Fire Rescue Director Joey Fowler stated that this is the annual renewal of the Facility Use Agreement. Cost is \$6,000 annually. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.5 **VOCA/CESF Grant Activation:** Victim Assistance Program Director Jodie Spooner stated that authorization is needed to accept this \$11,000 grant award. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.6 **Appointment to Board of Assessors:** Chief Tax Appraiser Hayward Becton stated that the term of Jeff Gibbs expires December 2022. Staff recommends reappointing Mr. Gibbs to the Board for another six (6) year term. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.7 **Resolution No. 2022-19, Filing of Application for Regional Transit Services:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that the Southern Georgia Regional Commission is applying for 5311 Transit Grant funds for their regional transit program and this resolution is a required part of the application. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.8 **Ordinance No. 2022-04, Code Enforcement Board:** County Manager Jim Carter and County Attorney Anthony Rowell discussed the key points of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Rowell asked that each Board member read thoroughly and let him know if they have any questions. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.9 **Resolution No. 2022-20, Surplus Vehicle:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that the District Attorney has turned in a 2013 Dodge Charger. Due to the high mileage, staff recommends surplussing and selling this vehicle on GovDeals. The Board indicated its desire to place this time on Consent Agenda.
- 5.10 **Adoption of County Seal:** Chairman Tony McBrayer gave a brief explanation of the symbolism of the proposed County seal. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 5.11 **Agreement with The Beatty Team for a Community Champion Initiative:** Chairman Tony McBrayer stated that there were several components of this agreement that he is not comfortable with and asked that this item not be placed on the agenda.

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- 5.12 **Appointment of County Clerk:** The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.13 **Appointment of County Attorney:** The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.
- 5.14 **Appointment to Keep Tift Beautiful:** County Clerk Miriam Jordan stated that the term for Karen Schultz expires on December 31, 2022. Mrs. Schultz is willing to serve another term. There are no other applications on file for this board. Mrs. Jordan also advised the Board that there is still one (1) vacancy. The Board indicated its desire to place this item on the Regular Agenda.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:**

There were none to report.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

County Manager Jim Carter thanked Tifton City Council Member Lester Cromer for attending the meeting. He also stated that an Executive Session is needed for Legal.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS:**

There were none to report.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Melissa Hughes asked for the creation and implementation of a mental health court. Ms. Hughes also invited everyone to the Gnat Drop on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Paul Webb expressed his concerns regarding trash on Mitchell Store Road. He asked that a meeting be scheduled with him, staff, Golden Environmental and Ryland to discuss this issue.

Commissioner Greg Wood expressed his concerns regarding litter.

Chairman Tony McBrayer also thanked Mr. Cromer for his attendance.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for legal. Motion seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 6-0.

Commissioner Greg Wood made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0.

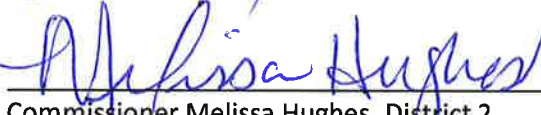
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**ADJOURN:**

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

  
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Chairman Tony McBrayer, District 7

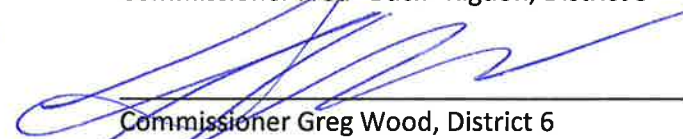
  
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Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

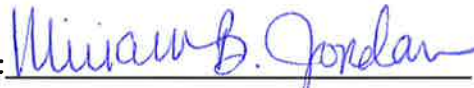
  
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Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2

  
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Commissioner Paul Webb, District 3

  
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Vice Chairman Stan Stalnaker, District 4

  
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Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon, District 5

  
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Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

ATTEST:   
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January 9, 2023