

**REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020 (6:00 PM)**

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:00 pm in Room 207 of the Charles Kent Administration Building. Members of the Commission present in addition to Chairman Thompson were Commissioners Donnie Hester, Fred "Buck" Rigdon, Stan Stalnaker and Melissa Hughes. Commissioners Paul Webb and Greg Wood were present via teleconference.

Due to social distancing recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was also available via teleconference. Notice of this meeting was given to the Tifton Gazette (legal organ), WALB News, Fun Channel, Grapevine, posted on the County's Website and Facebook page and posted at the Charles Kent Administration Building. The notice contained direction and opportunity for any citizens desiring to attend the meeting by phone.

Commissioner Donnie Hester offered an invocation and Chairman Grady Thompson led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none to report.

APPOINTMENTS

There were none to report.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA

There were none to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and legal. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon. Motion carried 6-0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to approve the following minutes: (1) Workshop Session – November 3, 2020; (2) Regular Session – November 9, 2020; and (3) Executive Session – November 9, 2020. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon. Motion carried 6-0.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Community Development Block Grant Program – Approved Activities for Grant Award of \$750,000

The Tift County Board of Commissioners have been awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$750,000 from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). These funds will be used for Phase I of street and drainage improvements in the Phillipsburg Neighborhood. This project will benefit low-and-moderate income persons.

Chairman Grady Thompson opened the Public Hearing for comments.

There being no comments to report, Chairman Grady Thompson closed the Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Motion to Approve the Fire Training Center Facility Use Agreement with City of Tifton in the Amount of \$6,000 to be Paid from Special Tax District Fund
- B. Motion to Approve Purchase of Rotary Mower Attachment from Yancey CAT in the Amount of \$17,275 to be Paid from TIA
- C. Motion to Approve Addendum to the Agreement with Watkins & Associates, LLC for Bridge Replacement over Little River/Omega-Eldorado Road in the Amount of \$303,082.60 to Paid from TIA
- D. Motion to Approve Addendum to the Agreement with Watkins & Associates, LLC for Bridge Replacement over Little River/Upper TyTy Road in the Amount of \$294,989.60 to Paid from TIA
- E. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2020-22, Caterpillar Financial Services for Leasing of Three (3) Motorgraders
- F. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2020-23, Surplus Equipment, Vehicle and Property
- G. Motion to Approve Participation in the Southwell Community Resource Collaborative and Appointment of Commissioners Melissa Hughes and Paul Webb to Serve on this Collaborative
- H. Motion to Approve Acquisition Policies for CDBG Grant Award
- I. Motion to Approve Language Access Plan for CDBG Grant Award
- J. Motion to Approve Alcohol Beverage Renewals for 2020 as Presented by County Clerk

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Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read by the County Manager. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon. Motion carried 6-0.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- K. **Petition to Change Street Name of Hale Avenue:** County Manager Jim Carter stated that staff needs some more time to make sure that staff is following the proper guidelines with this request. Mr. Carter asked that the item be tabled.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to table the consideration of this request. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0.

- L. **Appointment of County Attorney:** Commissioner Fred "Buck" Rigdon made a motion to reappoint County Attorney Anthony Rowell. Motion was seconded by Stan Stalnaker. Motion carried 6-0.

- M. **Appointment of County Clerk:** Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to reappoint County Clerk Miriam Jordan. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Donnie Hester. Motion carried 6-0.

- N. **Employment Contract for County Manager:** Commissioner Melissa Hughes made a motion to approve the employment contract for County Manager Jim Carter for a term of four (4) years. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Paul Webb. Motion carried 6-0.

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

County Manager Jim Carter presented Chairman Grady Thompson with a bound book containing letters from people across the State paying tribute to the service the Chairman has given to this County and State. Mr. Carter read an excerpt from the book that he had written about Servant Leadership.

County Attorney Anthony Rowell spoke of accomplishments that were achieved during the Chairman's tenure.


COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

All Commissioners spoke of their appreciation for Chairman Thompson's leadership.

Commissioner Melissa Hughes announced that there will not be a Gnat Drop this year. Also, she asked for donations of kids coats for the Keep 'Em Warm Coat Drive.

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ADJOURN: There being no further discussion, Commissioner Donnie Hester made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Melissa Hughes. Motion carried 6-0.



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: 

January 11, 2020