

**WORKSHOP SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, January 5, 2016 (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, January 5, 2016, 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: None

Appointments: None

Public Hearings: None

Items to be discussed for Regular Session, January 11, 2016

A. County Attorney Appointment: The County Manager advised that Items A and B are year appointments made by the Board. Each item will need a separate vote.

B. County Clerk Appointment: See Item A.

C. Vice Chairman Appointment: In February 2015 the Board adopted a Resolution setting the term and method for the selection of the Vice Chairperson yearly. The method set forth in the Resolution would be for the Vice Chairman to go to District 2, Commissioner Melissa Hughes. No action will be needed by the Board at the Regular Meeting.

D. Adopt Qualifying Fees for 2016: Per Georgia law the Local Governing Authority is required to set qualifying fees for the County offices that are up for election in 2016. Staff has prepared the Qualifying fees in accordance with the guidelines provided by the State. The Board will need to adopt the fees and the Clerk will need to run this in the Legal Organ.

E. E. B. Hamilton Sewer Extension Bids: Jason Jordan gave the staff report and the results of the bids for this project. Little River Construction was the low bidder in the amount of \$14,846.65 and staff recommends awarding the project to the low bidder. The funding source will be SPLOST V.

F. Proposed Street & Drainage Improvements/Hayes Circle & Smith Court: Jason Jordan gave the report of the bids on this project stating there were four bids turned in and staff recommends awarding it to the low bidder, HTS Construction in the amount of \$469,969.09 and it will be funded through SPOST V.

G. Proposed Street & Drainage Improvements/Springfield Drive, Joyner & Wiregrass: Jason Jordan gave the report of the bids on this project stating there were four bids turned in and staff recommends awarding it to the low bidder, HTS Construction in the amount of \$383,169.10 and it will be funded through SPLOST V.

H. Renewal of Fuel Master Maintenance Contract: This is a Maintenance Agreement for the Fuel Management System we have in the County and is renewable yearly. The renewal cost amount is \$2,756.25 and it has been allotted in the budget.

I. Athletic Advisory Committee Appointments: Craig Sowell gave the Staff report stating that two members, Mitch Williams and Curtis Richards have resigned from the Athletic Advisory Committee. Two applications have been submitted and they are Montoya Crockett and Chris Huggins. The applications have been reviewed and discussed by the Committee and is the recommendation for appointment by the Board of Commissioners.

J. Beer & Wine License Application: The County Clerk advised that EZ Trip Store located at 4468 Hwy 319 South is under new ownership. Application has been completed, Criminal History and Fingerprints run and it comes to the Board with an approval from the Sheriff.

K. Appointment to Behavioral Health Board: The County Clerk advised that Sherry Miley, who currently holds this appointment has submitted her resignation. Letter has been received from the District encouraging the Board to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Miley. Currently there are no applications on file to be considered. The Clerk gave out the letter along with other documentation of eligibility of the member for the Board's review and asked that they speak with Commissioner or other colleagues that might be interested.

L. Renewal of Brookfield Community Center Lease: The County Manager advised that a letter has been received from the Brookfield Community Club stating their desire to no longer lease this facility in Brookfield because they are dissolving the Club. There will be no need for renewal of this lease.

M. Change Solicitor from Elected Part Time to Full Time through Local Legislation: The County Manager gave the background history of the State Court of Tift County and the Office of Solicitor General. What was once approved for 1 elected part time Solicitor, eventually a full time Assistant Solicitor was added to help with the growing prosecutorial case load. The Solicitors Office has asked the Board of Commissioners formally request that Tift County's Local Delegation amend the current local legislation establishing the Office of the Solicitor General of Tift County and submit local legislation effectively changing the current operational status of the Solicitor from part time elected to full time elected. The Solicitors has provided the current State Court Docket backlog which is quite extensive and goes back a number of years. County Staff spent time with Herbert Benson, State Court Judge and he agreed with the Solicitor. He is willing and eager to hold additional sessions of State Court allowing for the backlog to be done away with. He also feels that increasing the number of sessions of State Court held weekly in Tift County will prevent future backlogs. Tift County Jason Hoffman and Assistant Solicitor Bryce Johnson were present to speak to the Board concerning their request and to answer any questions.

N. Surplus Vehicles: The Board asked for further information and pictures of the vehicles staff is proposing to surplus to be presented to them at the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner's Comments: None

County Manager's Comments: Reminded the Board of the Annual Chamber Banquet to be held on January 28, 2016 at the UGA Center and to please let the County Clerk know if you plan to attend so tickets can be purchased.

Executive Session: Motion was made by Vice Chairman Hester to go into Executive Session for Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Hughes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, District 1

Commissioner Melissa Hughes, District 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3

Commissioner Stan Stalnaker, District 4

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

ATTEST:

Commissioner Greg Wood, District 6

County Clerk 1/5/2016