

**REGULAR SESSION
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009 (6:30 P.M.)**

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, November 9 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Member of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Rigdon and Commissioners Donnie Hester, Mike Jones, Robert Setters, Sherry Miley and Melissa Chevers.

Chairman Thompson called to order the Regular Business meeting of the Tift County Board of Commissioners at 6:30 P.M.

Chairman Thompson asked Commissioner Miley to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

All actions taken in this meeting are results of Commissioners' votes with the Chairman's vote in the event of a tie which will be indicated.

Minutes: Motion was made by Commissioner Hester approving the October 6, 2009 Workshop Session Minutes, October 12, 2009 Regular Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

Addition to Agenda:

Agreement with Peanut Commissioner for purchase of the Old State Patrol Building (H)

Motion to add this item to the Agenda under the letters H was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: None

Public Hearings: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

C. Motion approving Aerial Concept Proposed Improvements at E. B. Hamilton and Friendly City Parks

D. Motion awarding bid to Southern Concrete for the repair of 40th Street Culvert in the amount of \$156,194.25

E. Motion awarding the bid to Southern Concrete for the repair of W. B. Parks Road Culvert in the amount of \$295,947

F. Motion approving Beer License for Jeta Patel for Good Neighbor Grocery located on Whiddon Mill Road

G. Motion approving Beer License for Avan Patel for Holiday Mart at U S 319 South

Motion approving the Consent Agenda consisting of items C, D, E, F, and G was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Tift County Recreation Department Background Check Policy: The County Manager gave an update stating staff has worked on a portion of the policy relating to background checks for persons wishing to volunteer and coach with the recreation department. We have taken the lengthy 14 page policy and turned it into a 4 page document. Commissioner Hester asked for further explanation of Sections 8-A, xi, which deals with the time constraints of being a convicted felon. Felonies other than the designated felonies written in policy, outside of five years, are to be dealt with at the discretion of the committee. The previous policy did not address types of felonies or a timeframe, just if you had a felony on your record, you could not be considered to coach. Further

explanation was given by Craig Sowell, Recreation Director and the County Attorney for clarification of Commissioners questions. Motion was made by Commissioner Setters to adopt the amended Background Check Policy as presented, seconded by Commissioner Miley. Motion carried with a 4 to 2 vote. Commissioners Hester and Chevers voted against the motion.

B. Cooperative Agreement between Tift County Recreation Department and Tift YMCA: The County Manager advised that staff is asking for some direction from the Board to add some more clarity to this Agreement between the Tift County Recreation Department and the Tift YMCA. Motion was made by Commissioner Setters to table for 30 days for more clarity, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried 5 to 1 vote. Commissioner Hester voted against the motion.

H. Agreement with Peanut Commission for purchase of Old State Patrol Building: The County Attorney explained the history with the Old State Patrol Building dealing with the financing and the ground lease on the new State Patrol Building. Currently the Old State Patrol Building and property is titled in the name of the Development Authority and it was understood that Tift County would provide payments on the new facility and the Ground Lease is with the Airport Authority. The old building is not being occupied and leaves the Development Authority with the right to sell the property provided that the proceeds of such a sale would go against the note of the new facility. The Development Authority has the opportunity to sell the Old State Patrol property and building to the Georgia Peanut Commission in the amount of \$370,800. The Board will need to give consent to the Development Authority to sell the property with the understanding that the purchase price will be applied to the debt on the new facility. The Commission's approval is subject to the retention of approximately .6 acres which consist of the old driver's license building adjacent to the old State Patrol building. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Rigdon giving consent to the Tift County Development Authority to sell the Old State Patrol property to the Georgia Peanut Commission in the amount of \$370,800, with the proceeds of the sale to be applied to the current debt of the new State Patrol Facility and the retention of approximately .6 acres which is known as the old driver's license building adjacent to said property, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Items:

- Reminded the Board of the Luncheon on November 10th at the Community Service Board

Commissioners Items:

Commissioner Chevers advised that Keep Tift Beautiful has joined in with One Street at a Time Campaign for cleaning up the streets in Tifton and Tift County. It will now be known as Keep Tift Beautiful One Street at a Time. The next two streets will be Collins and Duggans Streets located within the City Limits of Tifton. They are now cleaning the streets of Tifton and Tift County. She thanked Code Enforcement for all their help in this effort.

Commissioner Miley thanked Commissioner Chevers for her efforts of cleanup in Tifton and Tift County. She stated that she would like to see a "Free Countywide" cleanup day so that everyone can join in the campaign. This would be good to have a free day yearly.

Commissioner Jones stated that he attended the Governor's Round Robin Event and the Legislative Breakfast this morning that was held at the Chamber of Commerce and the common thread that was there was budget shortfalls for the State. He believes this is something we all should be concerned about. What he would like to see is a statement from the Commission Board to the Department Heads and Staff that just because we budgeted money, does not mean we should spend it. We need to do some ground work now. He would also like to see this hard with the Elected Officials. We need to be mindful of the situation and be conservative in the next six months and it will help us when we begin the budget process next year.

Chairman Thompson recognized and commended Carl Fortson and staff, Commissioner Chevers and Darrell Wiggins and staff stating they all have done a remarkable job in South Tifton and other places in beautifying and cleaning up. They have done a good job and it looks great.

Executive Session: None

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Hester, seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

Vice Chairman, Fred W. Rigdon District 5

Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

Commissioner Robert Setters, District 3

Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist. 4

Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6

Attest: _____
Glynda Hemby, County Clerk