

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: **ALFRED CASON, WENDELL HUGH DIXON, DARRIEL NOBLES, TOMMY ROLLINS, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS.**

Call to Order: Vice-Chairman Cason called June Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Invocation: Commissioner Rollins gave the Invocation.

Approve Agenda: Vice-Chairman Cason asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to amend the June 15, 2021 Agenda to include Consideration of Property Casualty Insurance Proposal and to add before the County Manager's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chairman Cason asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held on May 18, 2021.

**May 18, 2021
Regular Board Meeting:**

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the minutes from May 18, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chairman Cason asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the Called Board Meeting held on June 8, 2021.

**June 8, 2021
Called Board Meeting:**

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to approve the minutes from June 8, 2021 Called Board Meeting.

Employee Recognition

– Patsy Chester

– Cindy Brown

Vice-Chairman gave recognition to Patsy Chester and Cindy Brown for their years of service and asked Sheriff Kight to come forward and present their plaques to each, for a job well done. Patsy Chester is retiring from the Assistant Administration from 2001-2021 and Cindy Brown sergeant in the Detention Center for the years of service 1994-2004. Sheriff Kight stated that both have been dedicated as an employee of the County and have been a great help to him and a great help for this county. It will be hard to find a replacement for their position.

**Development Authority
Report:**

Michele Johnson stated they kicked off their Vibrant Community Initiative Meeting was held on May 26th with two sessions and over one hundred people participating in those sessions. Showcase in Toombs and Montgomery County was held last Friday and there was a packed house this year. The Youth Leaderships Program, there were over forty applicants and the selection committee will be picking the participants later this month. The Chamber's Board Meeting will be held on June 22nd at Brewton-Parker College. Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (GACCE) Executive Leadership Conference will be held at Jekyll Island on July 5th – 9th, 2021. The Development Authority meeting will be held on June 17th at Noon in the Chamber & Development Authority Boardroom. The Authority, along with the Chicken of the Sea, Dot Foods, Georgia Power, Memorial Health Meadows Hospital, Southern Nuclear Hatch Plant, and Trane Technologies, recently sponsored a Toombs County Workforce Strategy project to be facilitated and documented by the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia. A steering committee made up of key leaders has been working since March. The effort's first project, an Employment Fair 2021, is scheduled for Wednesday June 23, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at

Southeastern Technical College's Vidalia Campus. Over fifty businesses have registered. Marketing efforts to encourage local talent/workforce participation will commence this week.

Department Reports: None Given

Library Report: Cameron Asbell, Director of Ohoopsee Regional Library System and the members of the Toombs County Library Board were present and gave an update on the renovation and expansion of the Library in Vidalia. Bryan Bishop updated the Commissioners on the renovation of the Vidalia Library. He stated that they have raised \$ 700,000 locally and with the help of Blake Tillery and Greg Morris the state has provided funding to do the remaining renovation on the library and to move the Ladson Genealogical Library over to the main library location. They are two years ahead of schedule. They do have their naming sponsor, when this is all completed the Library will be named Doctor Mark Spivey and Tonya Spivey Public Library. Cameron Asbell also spoke on the necessary funding they would be needed to keep the Library running efficiently.

Public Participation: None

Consideration of the Ratifying Repairs on North Jefferson Street: Manager Jones stated North Jefferson Street is located in the City of Lyons and is partially located in the county. McLendon Enterprises has repaired the City's portion of the road. Management asked the board to ratify the invoice in the amount of \$ 16,500 to repair the county's portion of the road and the invoice will be paid with Public Works M & O Budget.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to ratify the repairs on North Jefferson Street with McLendon Enterprises in the amount of \$ 16,500. Public Works Funds will be used to pay the invoice. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Approval of Superior Court Public Defender Contract for State FY 2022: Manager Jones stated the proposed budget for the Superior Court Public Defender was the same as it was last year. Management asked the board to approve the proposed Public Defense's State FY 2022 Budget which starts on July 1st, 2021. Management recommended approving the Contract.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Superior Court Public Defender Contract for State FY 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Re-Appointment of Ann Bedingfield to Toombs County Board of Family and Children Services: Manager Jones stated a letter was received from Ashley Payne, County Director of Toombs County Family and Children Services, requesting the re-appointment of Ann Bedingfield to the Board of Toombs County Board of Family and Children Services. Management requested the approval of the re-appointment of Ann Bedingfield for the term of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2026.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to re-appoint Ann Bedingfield to the Toombs County Board of Family and Children Services. Ms. Bedingfield terms will be July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Presentation of Draft Ordinance for a Broadband Ready Community: Manager Jones stated in the Commissioner's packet was a copy of the County's policy on Ordinance Acceptance. Also included in the packet was the Policy & Procedure Committee on the submitted draft of the proposed Broadband Ready Community Ordinance. If the Board approves the draft, the following step would be the approval process to continue. Once approved the following step is to hold a Public Hearing on the proposed ordinance before the next meeting held

on July 20, 2021, the board will then decide to accept the ordinance, reject the ordinance, or make changes to the ordinance. If there are changes there will be another Public Hearing before the Board can vote on it again. Management and the Committee requested the board to authorize the process to continue with the Broadband Ready Community Ordinance.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to proceed to the next step in finalizing the Ordinance for a Broadband Ready Community. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Motion to Accept the Terms and Conditions of the American Rescue Plan State and Local Recovery Fund from the United States Treasury: Manager Jones stated this is a package that was passed by Congress and President Biden earlier this year. As of today the US Treasury has not given any rules or regulations what we can or cannot spend these funds on. There is a meeting planned on July the 29th given by University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government and hopefully will provide information on how we are to manage these funds. The US Treasury did not require county governing authorities to take Board action on accepting these funds; however, ACCG has recommended that the County Board do so. Management asked for the Board to accept the terms and conditions and the county's allocation of \$ 5,211,414 for the American Rescue Plan State and local Recovery Fund from the U. S. Treasury which were signed by the Chairman on May 31, 2021.

Commissioner Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to accept the terms and conditions and the county's allocation of \$ 5,211,414 for the American Rescue Plan State and local Recovery Fund from the U. S. Treasury which were signed by the Chairman on May 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Property Casualty Insurance Proposal: Manager Jones stated the Property Casualty Insurance proposal was given to the commissioners for their review. It is in the range for the 2020-2021 budget amounts. The total increase this year from last year was \$ 1,145. If you have any questions Brian Bishop was present and could answer any questions. The total cost of the policy is \$ 239,806.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to accept the proposal from Bishop and Durden Insurance for the Property Casualty Insurance for the County in the amount of \$ 239,806. Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Report:

Financial Report: Manager Jones stated the county's is still within the budget; expenses are two percent below budgeted projection.

Construction Project Up-Dates: Manager Jones stated all the projects are running on schedule.

Miscellaneous: Manager Jones stated the sales tax continues to be strong. On June 17th at 5:00 P.M. the City of Lyons will have a Ribbon Cutting for the new disk golf course.

Standing Committee Reports:

Commissioners Comments:

Adjournment: Vice-Chairman Cason asked for a motion to adjourn from the Regular Board Meeting.

Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rollins to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Alfred Cason, Vice-Chairman

Attest: _____
Helen Harris, County Clerk