

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

- PRESENT:** **ALFRED CASON, BUCK MOON, DARRIEL NOBLES, TOMMY ROLLINS, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS**
- Call to Order:** Vice –Chairman Rollins called the May 20<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
- Invocation:** Commissioner Cason gave the Invocation.
- Approve Agenda:** Vice –Chairman Rollins asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.
- Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason approved the May 20<sup>th</sup> Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Minutes:** Vice-Chairman Rollins asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the April 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting:
- Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the minutes from April 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- Development Authority Report:** **Michele Johnson**, announced the Chamber’s Board Meeting will be held Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 in the Dot Foods Business Hub. The office will be closed on Monday for Memorial’s Day Holiday. The two Ribbon cutting coming up, the first is for Ohoopee River Brewer Company on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM and the second Ribbon Cutting will be held on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon for the Garden of Hope. Toombs County at Development Authority (TCDA) Regular Monthly Meeting -Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon in the Dot Foods Business Hub, Greater Vidalia® Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, 208 East First Street, Vidalia.
- Department Report:** **Drew James**, Director of EMS, stated there were 548 calls last month, with thirty-two contacts at the Onion Festival. He expressed a special thanks to Southeastern Technical College for the partnership that has been formed with their Nursing and EMT Class; during the onion festival they volunteered to help staff our first aid tents. Next year we will have the pleasure of having the Blue Angels and the rehab trailer should be expected in the next week. In mid-June, there will be a car seat checkpoint from 8:00 AM until noon at the Wal-Mart parking lot.
- Public Participation:** **Carolyn Harden**, 765 Jim Shuman Road, explained how hard it was to use the Jim Shuman Road. The farmers have been very helpful in pulling people out of the deep ruts on Jim Shuman Road. There are large ruts even after the County scraps the road. She asked that the Commissioner to ride the road after it get scraped. There are large ruts even after the County scraps the road. Ditches need to be dug on our roads.
- Marvin Dasher, Jr.** 1316 Jeff Webber Road. Dasher Road from Hwy. 56 is almost impassable. In the year 2023, we came to one of the meetings asking for help on our roads and have not seen any improvements since then.
- Alton Mobley**, 1582 Jeff Webber Road. At the end of 2024, the Commission stated the County was applying for a grant where the road could be paved, what happened to that money? Manager Jones stated the County had applied for two years in a row and was not awarded the grant. Vice-Chairman stated he has traveled the road and knows that Jeff Webber Road is one of the horrendous roads and one of the longest roads in Toombs County. We are working on these road, it just a slow process.
- Rusty Salem, Sr.**, 1883 Jeff Webber Road. There are a lot of older people that live on this road and need the road, especially for emergencies.

**Debra Towns**, 65 Jim Aryard Smith Circle. She was stuck in the clay for 3 hours until a wrecker came and got her out. Why do they put clay on the road? Vice-Chairman Rollins replied that the clay was there so that it would pack down and harden the road, but the good Lord gave us 14 inches of the rain. Ms. Towns asked, Do you communicate with Tattnall County and let them know when you are placing a road closed at the end of the road so they can do the same in Tattnall County when Jeff ?

Additional comments was announced that a Doctor, two Physical Assistants, and Nurses who live on these roads and need a good road to get to work every day.

**Estile Evans**, 656 Blaxton Road, had complaints about the road damage caused by Silicon Ranch vehicles; Blaxton Road needs a lot of repairs. Ditches have not been pulled in many years. The person who rides behind the scrapers, they do not clear up the debris or get the culverts cleaned so the water can run through the pipes. By not cleaning the pipes, there is water backing up and water is running across the road. The Silicon Ranch has a tandem-axel dump truck that tears up the roads; something needs to be done about this.

**Consideration of Resolution Proclaiming May 18th – 24th, 2025 as Emergency Medical Services Week in Toombs County:**

The week of May 18<sup>th</sup> is designated as EMS Week across the Nation. Vice-Chairman Rollins read a resolution to recognize the County’s EMS Service. Director Drew James, along with Suzzanne Gills, Archie Roberson and the Commissioners, took a group picture to commemorate the occasion.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution for recognition of EMS’ week. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Request from Gardens of Hope for Funding of a Van, Peer Navigator, and Data Coordinator Positions with Gardens of Hope:**

The County has received funding for the Opioid usage lawsuit. Mr. Craig George has helped people with positive results through the help of Garden of Hope Recovery and Support, resulting in actually moving individuals permanently out of this addiction cycle. Mr. George met with Senior Superior Court Judge Bobby Reeves, Sheriff Kight, and County Manager John Jones regarding his organization and the funding he needed to obtain a van. Craig George spoke and explained how a van would help those who need to go to mental health appointments, recovery meetings, and counseling, all along those lines. An email from the County Attorney confirmed that this request is acceptable under the guidelines for the use of these funds. Judge Reeves and Sheriff Kight are in favor of using these funds for this purpose. The Commission has the final say if they would release \$80,000 for such purpose. Vice-Chairman Rollins spoke and appreciated the work they are doing in our area. Chairman Moon asked if there were several locations that they have and Mr. George replied, yes. Chairman Moon asked that Mr. George introduce the people with him at the meeting. Each person gave their name and their position within the Garden of Hope; Amy Crews, Jim Bo Parks, and Ashley Gardner. A group picture was taken after the meeting was adjourned.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the release of \$80,000 funds for the Garden of Hope Recovery and Support funding request. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of a Proposal from Responsive Technology for Security of IT Infrastructure:**

Manager Jones stated Responsive Technology has been the County’s IT provider for several years and has supplied us with a level of security support. It has been suggested that the County increase the coverage for cyber-attacks. The proposal from Responsive Technology in the cost is \$2,778.18 per month (\$33,338.16 yearly). This covers three servers, forth-nine workstations and includes back-up cloud storage and many other features that are outlined in the proposal which was included in the Commissioners packet.

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moon to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Renewal of ROW Mowing and Maintenance Agreement with**

This is a renewal of our annual agreement with K & A. They have been handling our ROW Mowing with very good results with their services. The renewal is the same price as last year’s agreement. K & A Mowing also does the bi-annual mowing on the closed portions of the landfill, as EPD guidelines require.

<b>K &amp; A Mowing:</b>	Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the renewal of the ROW Mowing and Maintenance Agreement with K & A Mowing and to be paid out of the General Fund, Pubic Works Budget and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<b>Consideration of Approval of a Resolution to Adopt Amendment for ACCG 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan and Associated Agreement:</b>	<p>Manager Jones, The County is looking at additional fringe benefit that could be offered to the employees of Toombs County. The County currently offers a 100% county-funded pension plan (defined benefit plan) and a 457(b) Deferred Contribution plan to which employees can contribute pre-tax. A 457(b) Deferred Compensation Roth Plan could be added to which employees can contribute post-tax. The benefit to this plan is that all of the earnings and any future with- drawals are tax free. Additionally, there is no minimum withdrawal amount required at any age and can be transferred to a beneficiary at death tax-free. There is no cost to the county to institute this plan. The Commissioners were asked to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution to Adopt the Amendment for ACCG Agreement Amendment #1 to the ACCG 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan for Toombs County.</p> <p>Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution to Adopt Agreement Amendment #1 to the ACCG 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan for Toombs County. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Third Amendment to Debristech, LLC for Debris Monitoring Services:</b>	<p>Manager Jones, stated that Debristech, LLC proposed a Not to Exceed Amount to be increased to \$8.5 million to finish out the work.</p> <p>Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moon to approve the Third Amendment for Debristech LLC, increasing the Not to Exceed Amount to \$8.5 million so that Devristech,LLC will be able to complete the work in our County. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Elevator Service &amp; Maintenance Contract with Otis Elevator Company:</b>	<p>Manager Jones, The Toombs County Government Center has four (4) elevators and two (2) are for the general public to use; one (1) Service/Judges Elevator, and one (1) Inmate Elevator. All four were Otis Elevator’s and installed by Otis with Otis Elevator Company Contract at a cost of \$1,350 a month (\$16,200 a year). The contract shall be paid with General Fund, Building Maintenance Department.</p> <p>Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moon to approve the Contract with Otis Elevator Company for four (4) elevators for \$1,350 a month and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Proposals for Front- End Loader for Toombs County Solid Waste Facility:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated, Due to the age of the front-end loader at the Solid Waste Facility have been using and now has a blow engine and the repair cost was estimated at \$33,000 to repair it. Two proposals were presented to the Commissioners, one (1) from John Deere 544 P-Tier and a CAT 930. Both quotes include extended warranty. John Deere 544 P-Tier quoted \$236,585 Sale Price, Monthly Lease Amount of \$3,483.76, Annual Amount of \$41,805.12, a Buy Back Amount of \$92,168 and extended warranty of 60 months/5,000 hours. The other proposal was from Caterpillar 930 quoted sale price of \$255,305, Monthly Lease Amount of \$3,664.17, Annual Amount of \$43,970.04, a Buy Back Amount of \$75,000 and extended warranty of \$60 months/7,500 hours.</p> <p>Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve and select the rental agreement for a Caterpillar 930 due to the additional hours of extended warranty with the 930 front-end loaded and pay with the Solid Waste Budgeted Funds. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Proposal for Rubber</b>	Manager Jones stated, there is a need of replace the 2017 John Deere Backhoe, in the Commissioners packet was a copy of a proposal from CAT giving a

<b>Tire Backhoe Loader for Toombs County Public Works:</b>	<p>\$35,000 for the 2017 backhoe. The net price of \$125,917 will be the final price, due to the trade-in value and the extended warranty. Annual lease will be \$25,560 with a buy back option of \$51,500 and an interest rate of 5.49%.</p> <p>Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the lease of a new backhoe from CAT. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Proposal for Weed Control and Growth Suppression on County ROW:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated at the first of the year ChemPro sprayed the ROW (Right-of-way) for weed control; with the good results, the County had the contract calls for another spraying this July. Commissioners was asked to approve the proposal for weed control and suppression from ChemPro and pay with General Funds from the General Fund, Public Works Department.</p> <p>Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the proposed spray for week control and suppression from ChemPro and pay with General Funds, Public Works Departments Budget. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Proposal for Planned Maintenance for Generators at the Toombs County Government Center and Sheriff's Office (Detention Center):</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated a copy of a proposal for the Maintenance Agreement on the generators for the Toombs County Government Center (AKA: Courthouse) and for the Sheriff's Office/Detention Center was included in the Commissioners Packet for consideration. Once approved, the agreement will be paid from the General Fund, Building Maintenance Budget.</p> <p>Commissioner Moon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Maintenance Agreement with Cummins for the generators at the Toombs County Government Center and Sheriff's Office, and Detention Center. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of Proposal to Demo Mobile Home (Former Training Room) Behind Sheriff's Office:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated the building is no longer being used and is falling apart and has become an eyesore. Keith Campbell at the Detention Center will use inmates to demo the building and carry the metals to Morris Salvage. There is no negative impact on the financial side. The building needs to be declared as salvage and approve that the building to be demolished and removed.</p> <p>Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to declare the building located behind the Sheriff's Office, as salvage, allowing the Detention Center inmates to demo and carry the metal to Morris Salvage. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>Consideration of the Intergovernmental Agreement between Toombs County and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for Funding Outdoor Recreational Facilities:</b>	<p>Manager Jones stated the county was awarded a Recreation Grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the construction, restoring and maintenance of outdoor recreational facilities. This Recreation Grant is in the amount of a one million dollar grant.</p> <p>Commissioner Moon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and Toombs County as a Recreation Grant and authorize the County Manager to sign. Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>County Manager Report: Financial Report:</b>	<p>County Manager Jones stated the Maintenance and Operational Budget with having a \$5.2 million in expenses that are FEMA related expenses; if those were excluded from the operating expenses the County would be two percent under budget. Solid Waste had Revenue of fourteen percent above budget. Year-to-date Revenue over expenses was \$395,000, which is sixty percent of budget through the third part of the year. Accounts Receivable is at \$337,000 of which ninety-seven percent is current. EMS Revenue for April was the strongest revenue of the year. Sales Tax for April 2025 was 8.89% above April 2024.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	<p>Pre-Con meeting on the TSPLOST Project (Old Normantown Road and Cedar</p>

Crossing-Alston Road) will be scheduled for Wednesday at 3 PM. Public Works – worked last Friday, trying to clean up some roads. The Counties primary focus is making as many roads as possible passable for traffic. Understanding the issues we are having on Jeff Webber and Jim Shuman Road; this is going to take several months; our dirt road system was destroyed, as bad as when we had the flood earlier this year.

Pre-Con meeting on the TSPLOST Project (Old Normantown Road and Cedar Crossing-Alston Road) will be scheduled for Wednesday at 3 PM. Public Works – worked last Friday, trying to clean up some roads. The Counties primary focus is making as many roads as possible passable for traffic. Understanding the issues we are having on Jeff Webber and Jim Shuman Road; this is going to take several months; our dirt road system was destroyed, as bad as when we had the flood earlier this year.

<b>Standing Committee</b>	
<b>Reports:</b>	None
<b>Commissioners</b>	Commissioner Nobles suggested that in June, July, and August
<b>Comments:</b>	no coats or ties be required for the meetings; all Commissioner’s agreed.
<b>Adjournment:</b>	Vice-Chairman Rollins asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.
	Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.
	The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Tommy Rollins, Vice-Chairman

Attest:

Helen Harris, County Clerk