

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

PRESENT: **ALFRED CASON, BUCK MOON, DARRIEL NOBLES, TOMMY ROLLINS, JANSAN KILLIAN, JOHN M. JONES AND HELEN HARRIS**

Call to Order: Chairman Sikes called the November 18th Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Invocation: Commissioner Cason gave the Invocation.

Approve Agenda: Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moon to approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Sikes asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the **October 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting**

Commissioner Nobles made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to approve the minutes for October 21, Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Development Authority Report: Michele Johnson, announced Toombs County Development Authority (TCDA) Regular Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th, at 12:00 Noon. Leadership Greater Vidalia (LGV) Culture & Leisure Session on Friday, November 21st. Thanksgiving Holidays, Thursday, Nov. 27th and Friday, Nov. 28th Groundbreaking Ceremony for Marriott, Coleman Extension, Vidalia on Tuesday, December 2nd at 10:00 AM. Ribbon cutting Ceremony for Mount Vernon Bank, 115 North Railroad Ave., Mount Vernon, GA on Tuesday, December 2nd at 4:00 PM. Forestry Solutions Summit on Thursday, December 4th, Midway Greater Vidalia Youth Leadership (GVYL) Healthcare & Community Service Session on Monday, December 8th. Leadership Greater Vidalia (LGB) Government Session on Tuesday, December 9th. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) allocated funds for the repair and/or replacement of homes damaged by Hurricane Idalia, Tropical Storm Debby and Hurricane Helene. A Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program (HRRP) representative will be at the Greater Vidalia Center for Rural Entrepreneurship (GVCRE) on the first Monday of each month to assist families. Watch the Chamber's eNews and social media for details including pre-application survey requirements, Program criteria, and required documents. Remember, Thursday, December 11, 2025 from 11:30 to 1:00 PM the Greater Vidalia Chamber will be having the State of Cities/County at Lyons First Baptist Church, 144 South Washington Street.

Department Report: **None**

Public Participation: **None**

Consideration of Proposal for a Revised and Updated Emergency Management Ordinance: Manager Jones explained the in the Commissioners packet there was a copy the Proposed Ordinance and a copy of the Ordinance Acceptance Policy. In the October Meeting the Commission approved the presentation of the revised Ordinance to be presented in the November Meeting. As directed by the Chairman, the County had Deputy EMA Director C.J. Worden prepare a draft of an Emergency Management Ordinance for the Commissioners to review. The County's Attorney has reviewed the Proposed Ordinance, the Commissioners approved to continue to the next step to hold a Public Meeting prior to the December 16, 2025 Commissioners Meeting. Deputy EMA Director C.J. Worden spoke on the highlights of the changes that had been made and explained that there were defined as "Act of Authority" in case of an emergency the Authorities can be in authority in advance to do necessary procedures for the public safety. The County Authorities can also have the authority to register any company or individual that would like to do recovery for the County and the residences of the County. This process will allow the County to propose sanctions for price gouging and to grant road closures when it is not safe for Public Passage.

Commissioner Moon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to approve the next step which is to post and advertise the Proposed Ordinance, along with a Public Hearing before the December 16th Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Authorizing Reimbursement of Individual Check Amounts from April 2025 – Road Purchase:

Manager Jones stated there were three property owners involved in the closure portions of Raymond Rollison Road and Ohoopee Station Road. The County received individual checks to purchase this section of road which is now closed, as one Quit Claim. The request for a Quit Claim Deed, required the individuals to acquire the three portions of land individually and not as a whole. The Commission was asked to return the original payment and to receive the correct amount for the three individuals to receive three signed Quit Claim Deed to the property. The amount of the checks will be the same as presented before, except the evaluation will be proportioned differently according to the amount of land being acquired by the individual. The Georgia Code allowed the County to make this transaction provided the purchase price was the proper percentage of fair market value. The Commissioners Packet also contained a letter from the County Attorney to these potential purchasers regarding the need to return their monies and to issue checks from each in the proper amount.

Vice-Chairman Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Moon to approve the return of three checks in order to receive the proper distribution of payments to the three individuals in exchange for a Quit Claim Deed. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Authorizing Chairman to Sign Individual Quit Claim Deeds for Road Purchase after Updated Payment Received:

A letter from the County's Attorney was included in the Commissioners Packet defining the proper amount of each land owner on the closed portion of Raymond Rollison Road and Ohoopee Station Road. Once each individual has presented a check in the amount as identified in the County Attorney's letter, the Commission was asked to authorize the Chairman to sign the Quit Claim Deed to that individual.

Vice-Chairman Rollins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cason to authorize the Chairman to sign individual Quit Claim Deeds to each individual after updated payment has been presented and received. . Motion carried unanimously.

County Manager Report Financial Report

Manager Jones stated in the Packet was a copy of the Financial Statement. Sales Tax – We now have two straight months of sales taxes where growth appears to be slowing with 0.17% in September and 2.78% this past month. Maintenance and Operation (M&O) has been greatly affected by the slow reimbursement of FEMA funds. Financially, the landfill will have its large revenue ever and highest profit ever in 2025.

Review of EPD Inspection of Solid Waste Facility:

Manager Jones stated a copy of the latest EPD inspection report on the landfill was included in the packet. He County has an annual inspection each year. As started in the inspector's letter, the landfill has greatly improved since the previous inspection. The County scored 95 out of 100 on the MSW Landfill area. The closed C & D of the Landfill, it was noted it had no deficiencies and had a score of 95. This was closed on May 13, 2019. The 30 year mark will be May 13, 2049. New C & D Landfill, the score was 95. The inspection on the Closed MSW landfill was in good shape. This was closed on June 30, 1998. June 30, 2028 will be 30 years. There is no score given on a post closure inspection; no noted deficiencies equals a good report. Included in the packet was an illustrates the vertical expansion of the current landfill which we discuss in the following work session. We are in the process of developing a long term plan, part of that is where the next cells will be built and to relocate the scale house next to Highway 15.

Review of Health Insurance Reports:

A report was included in the Commissioners Packet for the 911-Fee Payment and the Workmen's Comp. and the Monthly Wellness Progress Report.

Review of FEMA:

Moody Credit Rating that determine our Bonds, will be meeting in the next few weeks. They will present a preliminary report, and then they give two hours to review and make comments on the report. Then there will be a press release

given and the full report and we would have one hour to make comments on that. Moody has concerns about the debt incurred on the clear-up after the storm Helene, FEMA has only reimbursed us \$30,678,415.01 but the over-all cost to do the clean-up was \$83,191,408.29 (this total included the expense due to Looks Great Services and Debris Tech).

Miscellaneous: EMS Station at Cedar Crossing, built 2013 the renovations are almost complete. All the exterior paint on the outside and the inside of the building has been completed; the next thing is to replace the furniture. An inspection of the Mobile Home Park off of Mosley Road, Highway 297 has been done. They are expected to finishing the paving in the next few weeks.

Standing Committee Reports: None

Adjournment Chairman Sikes asked if there was a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

Commissioner Cason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Nobles to adjourn from the November 18, 2025 Regular Board Meeting at 5:50 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Work Session:

Items Discussed: Pave a connecting road from Semoco Road to the Stock Yard Road.

Altamaha Museum in Vidalia, asking for a donation.

Lyons Library, asking for a donation.

Lyons Lions Club, asking if the Veterans flags be displayed with the future orders of the Veterans flags, at the Courtyard of the Courthouse, two times a year. So far there is 217 flags displayed along Victory Drive and for the deceased veteran that lived in Toombs County. There is a cost of 100.00 per flag to the families that want to honor their love ones, and every five years the family has to renew in order for them to be displayed.

FEMA reimbursement, trying to get an answer on when we will be receiving the funds to pay Looks Great Services and Debris Tech.

Hurricane Helene – ROW Debris Cleanup total as follows:

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Looks Great Services | – \$75,075,731.63 |
| Debris Tech | <u>-\$ 8,115,676.66</u> |
| TOTAL | \$83,191,408.29 |

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|-----------------|------------------------|
| Paid By FEMA | \$30,678,415.01 |
| Paid by Vidalia | \$ 3,121,796.00 |
| Paid by County | <u>\$11,213,372.00</u> |
| TOTAL PAID | \$45,013,583.01 |

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|------------------|-----------------|
| Accounts Payable | \$38,177,825.28 |
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| DUE FROM FEMA | \$52,512,993.28 |
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| Pay to Vidalia | \$ 3,121,796.00 |
| Pay to Vendor | \$38,177,825.28 |

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| BALANCE TO TC | \$11,213,372.00 |
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