

**TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION  
APRIL 11, 2005 5:30 PM**

**Grady Thompson, Chairman, District 7 Charlotte W. Bedell, Vice Chairman Dist 6  
Donnie Hester, Commissioner, Dist 1 Frankie Mathis, Commissioner, Dist 2  
Hugh Webb, Commissioner, Dist 3 John M. Huggins, Commissioner, Dist 4  
Fred W. Rigdon, Commissioner, Dist 5**

**Bill Park, County Manager Glynda Hemby, County Clerk  
Rob Reinhardt, County Attorney**

The Regular Business Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, April 11, 2005, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' meeting room of the Administration Building. Members of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Charlotte Bedell, and Commissioners Donnie Hester, John Huggins, Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon, and Hugh Webb.

Chairman Thompson asked Rev. Jarrell Lillard to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

**PRESENTMENT OF PROCLAMATIONS:**

The Chairman presented Proclamations to representatives from each respective agency:

- Tift County Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month for April 2005.
- Kick Butts Day –Tobacco Free Kids-Tift County Commission on Children & Youth for April 13, 2005 in Tift County.
- Tift County Crime Victims' Week for April 10 to 16, 2005.

All actions taken in this meeting are results of the Commissioners votes with the Chairman not voting except in the case of a tie which will be stipulated as such.

**MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Huggins approving the minutes of the March 8, 2005 Workshop Session, March 14, 2005 Regular Meeting and March 23, 2005 Special Called Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to add bids for painting the Behavioral Health Building to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Webb. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Thompson added the item as letter M.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Text Amendments to Zoning Ordinance:** The recommendation from the County Attorney and Staff was to present these Text Amendments again to the Planning and Zoning Board under two separate application numbers. Motion to table any decision on these amendments until further recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Board was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Request to close a portion of Norman Circle (Pond Dam):** The County Attorney and Mr. Harry Doss recommended closing the pond dam portion to alleviate liability for the county. Motion to proceed with the requirements for closing the pond dam portion of Norman Circle was made by Commissioner Mathis, seconded by Commissioner Webb. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Beer License Application for Pramila Patel:** This beer license application was denied by Sheriff Vowell. Motion to deny the issuing of beer license to Pramila Patel was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Beer License Application for Margarito Paz:** This beer license application has been approved by Sheriff Vowell. Motion to authorize the County Clerk to issue beer license to Margarito Paz was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Webb. Motion carried unanimously.

**E. Request to close Clyde Jones Road:** Mr. Harry Doss recommends the closing of this road which is approximately ½ mile, running from Ponder Road to Ellis Bryan Road. Motion authorizing staff to start the required procedures for road closing was made by Commissioner Webb, seconded by Vice Chairman Bedell. Motion carried unanimously.

**F. Human Resources Appeal Board Appointment:** Ms. Bertha B. Daniel has submitted an application to serve on this Board. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell appointing Bertha B. Daniels to fill the vacant position on the Human Resources Appeal Board, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

**G. ½ Ton Pickup Truck Bids for Recreation Department:** Craig Sowell sent out request for bids for ½ ton pickup for the Recreation Department. Bids are:

Greg Isaac	Tifton	\$23,353.00
Brannen Ford	Unadilla	\$17,195.00
Jeff Fender	Tifton	\$17,173.25
Allen Vigil Ford	Morrow	\$16,988.00

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to accept the bid in the amount of \$17,172.35 from Jeff Fender of Tifton, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

**H. Bleacher Bids for Recreation Department:** Craig Sowell sent out request for bids for eight (8) sets of three (3) row Tip N Roll aluminum bleachers at the new Multi-Purpose Building. Bids are:

Wesinco, Inc.	\$9,100.00
Bliss Products	\$5,405.00
Outdoor Aluminum	\$3,888.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Rigdon to accept the low bid in the amount of \$3,888.00 from Outdoor Aluminum, seconded by Vice Chairman Bedell. Motion carried unanimously.

**I. Furniture Bids for Multi-Purpose Building:** Craig Sowell sent out request for bids for furniture for the new Multi-Purpose Building. Bids are as follows:

Southern Office Furniture	\$20,316.00
Area Wide new & Used Office Furniture	\$23,210.75
Rumbles Office City	\$21,451.32
Flint Office Furniture	\$25,414.79

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to accept the low bid in the amount of \$20,316.00 from Southern Office Furniture, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

**J. Road Committee Report and Recommendations:** At the previous meeting Commissioner Huggins gave the recommendations of the Road Committee. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell that the recommendations be accepted, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously. The minutes and recommendations of the March 31, 2005 Road Committee Meeting are made a part of these minutes by attachment marked Exhibit "A" dated 4/11/2005.

**K. Water Expansion:** Mr. Park requested direction from the Board on two (2) issues of the water expansion: 1) Do we want twelve (12) or sixteen (16) inch pipe?  
2) Do we want only to do the section between Springhill/Taylor Ridge Subdivisions and the new tank or continue with the pipe down Highway 82 to Hall Road?

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to install sixteen (16) inch pipe to connect Springhill and Taylor Ridge Subdivisions to the tank and continue with sixteen (16) inch pipe down Highway 82 to Hall Road, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to table any further water expansion was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Hester. After discussion, both Commissioners respectfully withdrew the motion and second.

Direction was given to the County Manager to arrange a joint meeting with City and County officials for any further water expansion discussions.

**L. Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Chairman Thompson relinquished the chair to Vice Chairman Bedell to handle this item on the Agenda.

The County Attorney advised that Mr. Thompson has joined in the Quality Peanut Business that has recently come to Tift County. The County received a grant award through the Department of Community Affairs to construct a rail spur for the use by Tifton Quality Peanuts. In connection with this grant it is appropriate for a waiver of Conflict of Interest to be acted upon by the Commission Board. Vice Chairman Bedell entertained a motion for a waiver of Conflict of Interest. Motion was made by Commissioner Huggins, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

**M. Bids for Painting Behavioral Health Building:** Billy Spicer solicited bids for the painting of this building and bids are:

Crumbley Brothers	\$7,000.00
Dependable Paint Company	\$3,900.00
David C. Gibbs	\$5,250.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Hester to accept the low bid in the amount of \$3,900.00 from Dependable Paint Company, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously.

**COUNTY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

- Gave a print out of the updates on Local Legislation. The two pieces of Legislation that Tift County submitted to be repealed are now awaiting the signature of the Governor and we should have them in a couple of weeks.
- Reminded the Board that on April 28, 2005 is the Annual RDC appreciation banquet at Drake's Roost in Lanier County
- The ribbon cutting for the Multi-Purpose Building has been delayed. Will advise of the new date when it has been set.
- Gave out Monthly Status Report

**Commissioners Items:**

Commissioner Huggins inquired as to whether an appointment has been made to the Regional Development Center Board. Mr. Earl Denham has been appointed to serve on that Board. He also asked about a management letter from the auditor. Leigh Jordan advised that we have not received that letter as of yet.

Commissioner Hester stated that he has been disappointed with some things in his District concerning the dilapidated houses and the clean up process. He asked if we could impress upon the landowners that the regulations that the Board of Commissioners have adopted will be enforced. The County Attorney suggested that a priority list be prepared and move in this direction with the properties and give sixty (60) days. The entire Board is in agreement that we need to proceed in this direction.

Commissioner Bedell reminded everyone that next week is Georgia Cities Week and there are a lot of activities planned. The Tifton/Tift County Animal Shelter is one of the buildings on the tour.

Commissioner Mathis stated that prior to him taking office, he had heard that the Department of Community Development had been completely exonerated from the investigation it had been under but the Board nor had the newspaper ever recognized that. He would like for this to be done. County Attorney Reinhardt suggested that the Board could bring Mr. Wiggins and his department before the Commissioner at the Workshop meeting to do this and the newspaper would be present to make any comments in the paper.

Commissioner Huggins asked for a report from Wen Howell concerning the septic tanks in Forest Lakes Subdivision. Mr. Howell reported the problem he addressed the Board on at the previous meeting was getting under control. The water usage had dropped, an engineer was going to look over the problem and that some dirt and lime had been hauled in.

**Public Comments:** Mr. Rueben Bennett of 835 Ty Ty-Omega Road addressed the Board concerning the identification signs for E-911. Sometime ago his sign was knocked down by a county vehicle and was never put back. He stated the sign was run over by a school bus. He questioned was it the responsible of the County to put the sign back or his? County Manager Bill Park reminded the Board that this was a part of the budget discussion last year and it was established that the signs would be the responsibility of the homeowner effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. The County Attorney advised Mr. Bennett to contact the Board of Education to report this and he would endorse that fact that he appeared before the Commission Board if necessary in order for the School System to replace the sign since they are the responsible party for running over the sign.

Mr. Donald Adcock commended the Board for slowing down on decision making and spending tax paying dollars.

**Executive Session:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to go into Executive Session under OCGA 50-14-3(6) to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Commissioner Huggins. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Huggins to close Executive Session, seconded by Vice Chairman Bedell. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bedell to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Webb. Motion carried unanimously.

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Grady Thompson, Chairman

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Charlotte Bedell, Vice Chairman

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Donnie Hester, Commissioners

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Frankie Mathis, Commissioner

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Hugh Webb, Commissioner

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John M. Huggins, Commissioner

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Fred W. (Buck) Rigdon Commissioner

Attest:

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County Clerk

