

**CALLED SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2007  
6:00 P.M.**

The scheduled Called Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Monday, June 4, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, and Commissioners Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon, Sherry Miley and Robert Setters. Commissioner Jones was out of town and was not present at this meeting.

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

**Presentation of the Proposed 2007-2008 Operating Budget for Tift County:**

The County Manager gave a power point presentation of the proposed Budget for 2007-2008. Mr. Carter explained the Budget Expense by Functional Areas, Revenue Sources, Millage History, Budget Comparison by Fund, Overview of the General Fund and the FY 2008 Impact Items. He also discussed the evaluations of payments made to Outside Agencies and/or Private Entities. He explained that there were some different salary plans presented as a result of the Salary Survey completed by the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and that the County staff opted to budget the increases presented in Plan C-Modified. This plan will have the least fiscal impact in the upcoming budget year which amounts to \$591,567. Mr. Carter discussed the advertising for the position for Planning and Zoning Director as he understood that is what this Board wants to do. He reminded the Board also at this time the County does not have filled the positions of County Engineer and Human Resource Director. He does not recommend in the near future to fill either of these positions. He does not have any plans for a recommendation to fill the County Engineer position at all. He thinks with the Public Works Director with assistance from the Special Projects Manager and the relationships we have with other vendors we are being much more frugal in spending money by handling this function in the way we are operating now. As a matter of record, funding for these two positions is not included in this proposed budget. Commissioner Hester had some questions about the job duties of the Community Development Director. The County Manager and the County Attorney addresses his issues in relation to his job duties. His main concern was who is responsible for the maintenance of the Neighborhood Service Center. The building seems to be deteriorating and he felt as long as Mr. Wiggins was in charge of the building it was kept in much better shape. The County Manager will look into this issue and report back to the Board.

There was a good deal of discussion on the funding for outside agencies. The County Attorney stated that he has concerns on some of these agencies that money has been given to in the past. There was also much discussion concerning the 5% funds. The County Manager has discussed these concerns with the County Attorney and has asked him to do the research and give us a legal opinion on these issues. The County Attorney advised that the funding to the outside agencies and private entities should be carefully scrutinized. This budget provides for \$947,270 to be paid to other government and/or outside agencies.

**Set the Tentative Millage Rate for Tift County:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis setting the Tentative Millage Rate for Tift County at 10.39 Mills in the County and 2.103 Mills in the Special Tax District, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

**Tifton/Tift County Proposed Fixed Base Metering System:**

Commissioner Rigdon explained that the proposed Resolution regarding Adoption of Strategic Plan in Furtherance of Interlocal Agreement for the Cooperative Provision of Services, Amendment to Water and Wastewater Agreement. The fixed metering system is in line with the SPLOST IV Referendum. This will allow the changing out of the metering system to be read electronically. The process will take 8 to 16 months.

Commissioner Setters explained that this was put out for bids and they are included in each Commissioners packet. The reason for the rush decision on this issue is the guaranteed time for the bid is about to run out. It would be very expensive to have to go through the bid process again.

The process of borrowing the money and figuring out the better option has taken some time to decide on the best way and paying the least amount of interest. This does come to the Board as a recommendation from the Water Committee. There will be a considerable amount of savings and once the system has been installed and implemented, the cost saving dollars will go toward the equalization of the water rates.

Commissioner Hester gave an opinion of his feelings on this issue and he is not going to agree to anything else dealing with water until the water rates are equalized. He wants a date and time of when the City intends to get this done.

Motion to adopt the Resolution to enter into Addenda No 11 (First Amendment to Water and Wastewater Agreement) dealing with the fixed base metering system was made by Commissioner Setters, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried with a 4 to 1 vote. Vice Chairman Hester voted against the motion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rigdon to adopt the Resolution giving the County Manager the authority to sign the necessary documents changing the name of the Water and Wastewater function to be known as: "Tifton-Tift County Water/Wastewater Department", seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried by a 3 to 2 vote. Vice Chairman Hester and Commissioner Miley voted against the motion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis adjourn, seconded by, Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

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Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

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Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

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Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

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Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

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absent  
Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

**WORKSHOP SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2007  
6:30 P.M.**

The scheduled Workshop Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Grady Thompson on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, and Commissioners Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon, Sherry Miley and Robert Setters. Commissioner Jones was out of town and was not present at this meeting

**Public Comments:** None

**Appointments:**

Judge Gary McCorvey had requested to address the Board concerning the budget however, prior to the meeting he talked with the County Manager and was advised that his requests had been put in the budget.

**Public Hearings for Regular Session on June 11, 2007:**

- A. TC-ZA-07-05: Glenn Green request to rezone 31.52 acres from a parcel consisting of 117 acres from AU (Agricultural) to R-20 (Residential Single Family):** Mr. Fortson explained the nature of the request and stated that there was no motion made by Planning and Zoning on this case either for approval or denial. Staff recommends approval based on the Standards for the Exercise of Zoning Powers. The Board can either act on this request at the Regular Business meeting or send it back to the Planning and Zoning Board for them to render a recommendation back to the Commissioners.
- B. TC-ZA-07-09: Austin L. Coarsey request rezoning on 12 acres from AU (Agricultural Use to G-B (General Business) on property located on the north side of Highway 82 East:** Mr. Fortson explained the nature of the request and stated that this comes to the Board with a recommendation of approval from Planning and Zoning and Staff based on the Standards for the Exercise of Zoning Powers.
- C. TC-ZA-07-10: Martha Fulwood, LLC request rezoning of 51.82 acres from M-R (Multi-Residential) to C-C (Community Commercial) on property located between U. S. Highway 41 North and Interstate 75:** Mr. Fortson explained the nature of this request and stated it comes with an approval for Planning and Zoning and Staff based on the Standards for the Exercise of Zoning Power and the Tift County Future Land Use Plan.
- D. TC-SE-07-10: Excell Communications is requesting a Special Exception to allow the installation of a communication tower in C-C (Community Commercial) zoning district contingent upon approval of the rezoning request of Martha Fulwood, LLC:** Mr. Fortson explained the nature of this request and stated that it is contingent upon the approval of TC-ZA-07-10 from Martha Fulwood, LLC rezoning request. This comes with a recommendation from Planning and Zoning and from Staff based on compliance with the Standards for Special Exception Review.

**Items discussed by the Commission for action on June 11, 2007:**

- E. Final Subdivision Plat Approval for the cove at Willow Creek:** Mr. Fortson advised that this complies with the adopted Tift County Subdivision Regulations.
- F. Approval for preparation of new parking lot for paving at Tift Regional; County will be reimbursed for expenses:** Mr. Carter gave the explanation for this request however, the Chairman reported that the hospital has requested that we dismiss their request; they have already started the construction on this project. This item will require no action from the Board and will be removed from the Regular Agenda.
- G. Reappointment to Department of Family and Children Services Board:** A letter has been received with a recommendation of reappointment of Greg Crumley to serve another five year term.

- H. Reappointment to South Georgia Community Service Board:** A letter has been received with a recommendation of reappointment of Charlie Majeski to serve another three year term.
- I. Authorize the Chairman to endorse a DCA Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the Public Library:** This will provide funding for lead paint at the Library.
- J. Request for the Road Department for the purchase of a Straw Blower:** Jason Jordan advised the Board that they had demonstrated one of these machines and would cut down a significant amount of man hours on projects to be in compliance with the Erosion and Sedimentation Act. The funding for this machine is in the budget for Capital Equipment Expenditures. The closest supplier that could service the machine is United Rentals in Valdosta which submitted the low bid in the amount of \$18,046.67.
- K. Authorize the Chairman to endorse the Indigent Defense Contract for 2007-2008:** This is the standard contract for Indigent Defense Services.
- L. Sealed Bids on the Barfield Mill Property:** This property has been properly advertised and sealed bids were due and opened on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. Only one bid was received from Tommy Stone in the amount of \$120,000 which is the appraised value of the property. The proceeds will be deposited into the Revolving Loan Fund.

The Commissioners agreed to put items E, G, H, I, J, K, and L, on the Consent Agenda.

**County Managers Items:**

- Gave a power point presentation relating to LOST Reallocation. The Finance Director explained that this is a brief overview of what would trigger a reallocation of the LOST. According to law “so long as the percentage increase in LOST Revenue is less than and equal to the percentage increase in the General Fund expenditures County, no reallocations is applicable. Based on the formula used and going back for three years the percentages in the LOST Revenues does not exceed the percentage increase in the General Fund Expenditures
- Shared a letter from the E-911 Director about an outstanding job performance of an employee
- Reminded the Board of the Draft Brown Bag Ordinance they had been given to review and wanted some direction from the Board on this. The County Attorney gave some further information. The County Attorney and County Manager will continue working on this and come up with a workable solution.

Chairman Thompson asked Darrell Wiggins with Community Development to speak to the Board on the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs being in town last week. Mr. Wiggins explained the power point presentation that was given and the tour of Tift County. He stated they spent a lot of time in South Tifton and Commissioner Beaty was impressed with what is happening in Tift County. He stated that there are currently four new builds that are occupied and four more are under contract and old houses are coming down. Tifton is a model community and we have been asked if Tift County would be willing to help other communities.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Miley stated she would still like to have an updated Road report and would like to attend the next Road Committee Meeting.

Commissioner Mathis stated we need to continue the discussion that Mr. Hester brought up at the Monday night meeting concerning the Community Center on South Central. He inquired about the position that is still open for the Planning and Zoning Director. The County Manager advised that it has been re-advertised.

Vice Chairman Hester stated he would have a statement prepared for the Monday night meeting to address some issue previously discussed. He also stated we need to look at the handling of the Community Service Center; the County Manager will work with him and Commissioner Mathis.

Commissioner Setter inquired about a problem on Lake Larry Road. Jason Jordan reported that they are working on the situation.

The Chairman asked Roger Dill to give a report. Mr. Dill stated that on June 25, the contract will be let for the concept study for the proposed truck route for Tift County. He gave a report on the recently held GA DOT State Board Meeting, it was a successful event and we have received compliment letters from many of the Board Members. The event cost somewhere around \$12,500; almost \$9,000 worth of donations were received leaving the actual cost to hold this two day meeting here around \$3,000. Hopefully we will realize 100 to 150 million dollars

from having the DOT Board in town which is an excellent return on what money we spent. Chairman Thompson thanked Mr. Dill for his work and efforts put into this event.

**Executive Session:** Motion was made by Commissioner Setters to go into Executive Session under OCGA 50-14-13[4], Land Acquisition, OCGA 50-14-3[6], Personnel and OCGA 50-14-2[1] Legal, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis to close Executive Session, seconded by, Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

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Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

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Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

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Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

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Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

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absent  
Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

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ATTTEST:  
County Clerk

REGULAR SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2007  
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, June 11, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in the Court Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Commissioners Sherry Miley, Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon, C. Michael Jones and Robert Setters.

Chairman Thompson called to order the Regular Business Meeting of the Tift County Board of Commissioners at 6:30 PM.

Chairman Thompson asked Commissioner Frankie Mathis 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 not voting except in the case of a tie which will be stipulated as such.

**Public Comments:**

Perry Allen 403 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tifton, with the 211 – Retired Senior Volunteer Programs addressed the Board soliciting funds from the County budget to their program. She asked if the Board would consider contributing \$1,000 to the programs for the Senior Volunteer Connection. The Board took the request under advisement.

**Minutes:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Hester approving the minutes of the May 8, 2007 Workshop Session, and the May 14, 2007 Regular Session, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

**Additions to the Agenda:**

TC-SE-07-04: Mary Alice Lassiter request for Special Exception that was referred back to Planning Appeals Board for a Setback Variance: (M)

Motion to make the amendment to the Agenda to add TC-SE-07-04 under Item M was made by Commissioner Mathis, seconded by Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearings:**

- A. TC-ZA-07-05: Glenn Green request to rezone 31.52 acres from a parcel consisting of 117 acres from AU (Agricultural Use) to R-20 (Residential Single Family): Mr. Fortson explained the nature of the request and advised that it comes to the Board with no recommendation from Planning and Zoning because of no motion made to approve or deny. Staff recommends approval. The County Manager opened the public hearing. Commissioner Rigdon declared a Conflict of Interest. Motion was made by Commissioner Miley made a motion to send this request back to the Planning and Zoning Commission for them to review again and make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, seconded by Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Miley stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission has been charged with the duty to review the cases before them and make a recommendation one way or another to the Commissioners and since there was no recommendation on this case she feels that the Commissioners cannot do the job they were elected to do without some guidance from the Planning and Zoning Board.
- B. TC-ZA-07-09: Austin L. Coarsey request rezoning on 12 acres from AU (Agricultural use to G-B (General Business on property located on the north side of Highway 82 East: Mr. Fortson explained the nature of the request and advised that it comes to the Board with a recommendation of approval from Planning and Zoning and from staff. The County Manager opened the public hearing.  
Austin L. Coarsey of Coarsey Lane, Brookfield, GA, spoke in favor of his request and stated that if the County wants to increase the tax base, this is the chance to do it. He has heard no opposition from any of his neighbors.

Robert Nimo 820 College Street, Sumner, GA, also spoke in favor of this request.

There was no opposition. The Chairman closed the public hearing. Motion was made by Commissioner Miley to approve TC-ZA-07-09 rezoning request, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. TC-ZA-07-10: Martha Fulwood, LLC request rezoning of 51.82 acres from M-R (Multi-Residential to C-C (Community Commercial) on property located between US Highway 41 North and Interstate 75: Mr. Fortson explained the nature of the request and advised that it comes with a recommendation of approval from Planning and Zoning and Staff. The County Manager opened the public hearing. Vice Chairman Hester inquired about the definition of a "Strip Mall". He was advised that it would be retail businesses and possibly offices.

D.

Stephen Rakestraw, 83 Ty Ty-Omega Road and P.D. Fulwood, III of 1415 Kennedy Road, spoke in favor of this request. Mr. Rakestraw, on behalf of his client explained that they had researched the proposed plans and have talked with the RDC. This area was within the top five areas for potential growth in Tift County. They feel this will provide for Community Development for Tifton and Tift County. Commissioner Miley inquired about the amount of Greenspace that will be included in the project. Mr. Rakestraw stated the Ordinance calls for 15% however this project will exceed this amount. Commissioner Jones stated that we all need to be mindful of the Greenspace areas.

There was no opposition and the County Manager closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jones to approve TC-ZA-07-10, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. TC-SE-07-10: Excell Communications is requesting a Special Exception to allow the installation of a communication tower in C-C (Community Commercial) Zoning District contingent upon approval of the rezoning request of Martha Fulwood, LLC.: Mr. Fortson explained the nature of the request and advised that it comes to the Board with an approval from Planning and Zoning and from Staff. The County Manager opened the public hearing. The tower will be a free standing 250 ft. and will have a 9 ft. high security fence. Alltel will lease the property from Martha Fulwood, LLC.

Greg Clements from Alabama, a representative for Alltel Communications spoke in favor of the request. He stated the survey is complete and Alltel will be ready to start construction upon approval of the requested Special Exception. This tower will enhance cell phone coverage in the area and along I-75.

There was no opposition and the County Manager closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Jones had some questions about the acreage for the tower and the safety of the placement in relation to the proposed Strip Mall. The proposal is 209 ft. from the right of way of US 41 Hwy. His concern is that if the tower should fall, he had rather see it further out in a field. Commissioner Setters asked if there were any restrictions as to how close it would be located to the other buildings and Mr. Fortson explained that there were none, however the Commissioners could place restrictions if they choose to do so. Commissioner Rigdon wanted to know exactly how close the tower would be to the other facilities and Mr. Fortson advised that the site plan does not address that issue. At this time it is not determined how close the tower would be to the proposed structures.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Hester to approve TC-SE-07-10, Special Exception but died for the lack of a second.

Commissioner Miley suggested tabling the issue since there were a number of concerns discussed.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to table for thirty (30) days, seconded by Commissioner Miley. The motion carried by a 4 to 2 vote. Vice Chairman Hester and Commissioner Mathis voted against the motion.

Vice Chairman Hester then made a statement: "We have discussed this. That's why we have the Workshop Sessions and we are supposed to be ready to come in here at the Regular Meeting and decide on the issue. Ya'll are not doing it like we learned in our training classes."

## **Consent Agenda:**

- E. Motion approving Final Subdivision Plat for The Cove at Willow Creek
- G. Motion reappointing Greg Crumley to serve on the Department of Family & Children Board for another five year term to expire June 30, 2012
- H. Motion reappointing Charlie Majeski to serve on the South GA Community Service Board for another three year term to expire June 30, 2010
- I. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse a DCA Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for the Public Library
- J. Motion approving the purchase of a Straw Blower for the Road Department from United Rentals in the low bid amount of \$18,046.67
- K. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the Indigent Defense contract for 2007- 2008
- L. Motion to accept the bid from Tommy Stone in the amount of \$120,000 for the sale of surplus property known as Barfield Industries with the funds to be deposited in the Revolving Loan Fund

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of items E, G, H, I, J, K, and L seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Regular Agenda:**

**M. TC-SE-07-04:** Special Exception request from Mary Alice Lassiter to place a 2007 doublewide manufactured home, location # 14, 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue: Tabled from previous meeting. Mr. Fortson gave an update on the status of this Special Exception request. She was referred back to the Zoning Appeals Board by the Board of Commissioners to obtain a 20' ft. yard variance approval. That variance was approved by Zoning and Appeals. The County Manager advised that Ms. Lassiter has been asked to pipe and fill in the ditch for the safety of the mobile home. The staff recommendation is for her to purchase the necessary pipe and the County forces will install. Vice Chairman Hester stated he appreciated the County Staff for working to help Ms. Lassiter. Motion to approve TC-SE-07-04 was made by Commissioner Mathis, seconded by Vice Chairman Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

Ronald Nixon of 2700 South Park Avenue addressed the Board with his concerns on the recent decision the County entered into with the City on changing out the water metering system. He stated he came to the Board over a year ago to get the water rates equalized. That has not happened at this point because of the expense of \$800,000 to equalize the rates was not available. Now the Board has agreed to back \$3.2 million dollars to change out the meter system. He is not very happy about this and he thinks it is a very bad judgment call on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Miley addressed Mr. Nixon's comments stating that it was two separate issues and that the voters had voted for the SPLOST IV Referendum for the changing out of the water metering system.

County Manager Comments: None

Commissioners Comments:

Vice Chairman Hester inquired about the request for a light on Hale Avenue and was advised that it was in the process. He then addressed the action taken by the Board in support of changing out the water metering system. He stated he was still opposed to this or any other decisions dealing with the City of Tifton on the water because the water rates have not been equalized and he has not been given a specific time that this will happen. He stated that the City has put their plans in motion because we agree to whatever they put before us. He said "If you don't have a game plan, you'll get beat every time". He stated we need to get that promised rate study and get our own game plan and put it in motion. "We are losing and we must stand up for the whole county. He said the City has a better game plan.

Commissioner Mathis stated he has been receiving several complaints on some things that are going to be going on in the Neighborhood of Golden Road and Plaza Street. He would like for Planning and Zoning and Code Enforcement staff to keep watch on things down there and stay on top of the situation.

Commissioner Rigdon stated the fixed base water meter system was approved by the voters of Tift County on the SPLOST IV Referendum and he views the water rates a completely different subject.

Commissioner Setters commented that he understands Vice Chairman's Hester concerns on the water issues but agrees with the comments of Commissioner Rigdon that it is two separate issues. He does not see it as the City trying to beat us.

Glenn Green addressed the Board stating he was very disappointed in them and would like now to know what his next step would be in trying to get his rezoning request approved. He was upset because the Board chose not to hold the advertised public hearing because there was no recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Board and they have elected to send it back to that Board for that reason. The County Attorney addressed the issue with Mr. Green and stated that legally the Board has the right to refer this case back to the Planning and Zoning Board for them to render some sort of decision and recommendation back to them because that is their duty to do so as a member of that Board. Mr. Green stated that he would invest his time to go back to the Planning and Zoning Commissioner and back to this Board at the next meeting, but if he was not given a decision then he would hire a lawyer.

**Executive Session:** Motion was made by Vice Chairman Hester to go into Executive Session under OCGA 50-14-3(4) ,OCGA 50-14-2(1); and OCGA 50-14-3(6)seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Setters, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

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Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

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Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

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Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

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Commissioner Fred W. (Buck) Rigdon, Dist 5

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

ATTEST:

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County Clerk

**CALLED JOINT SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2007  
6:00 P.M.**

**CITY OF TIFTON COUNCIL, TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TIFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF TIFT COUNTY  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
FORWARD TIFTON**

Cal McMillan, President of the Chamber of Commerce called the Joint Meeting to order at 6PM, announced all the entities that were present and stated the purpose of the meeting was for introduction and explanation of Tax Allocation Districts (TAD).

Earl Denham gave a power point presentation explaining what the Tax Allocation District is and how it works.

Greg Sowell, Attorney for the City of Tifton addressed the group stating this is a tool for Economic Development. He stated "the tool is on the shelf and we need to use it." He advised that when a specific project comes to the table there will be required public hearings held and that the Board of commissioners, the City Council and the Board of Education will all have to agree on the project.

The TAD is created by the County and City governmental bodies calling for a referendum and putting it to public vote. The Special Election will be held September 18, 2007.

Rita Griffin, Chairman of the Board of Education state that the Board supports the TAD but expressed a few concerns they have.

Bob Reinhardt, Secretary for the Tifton County Development Authority said we are losing economic development ground to surrounding counties and that establishing TAD is an opportunity for a developer to develop and pay for it himself. He encourage the elected officials to put this to the voters and encourage its' passage.

Greg Sowell explained that no local authorities stand behind the bonds issued in a TAD; the payment of the bonds is between the developer and the bond investor. The public is not at risk.

Vice Mayor Joe Lewis then called to order the City Council and stated four members were present.

Motion was made by Councilman Hetzel to adopt the Resolution calling for the Referendum Election on September 18, 2007, for the purpose of determining whether or not the City of Tifton shall be authorized to exercise redevelopment powers under the Redevelopment Powers Law of the State of Georgia; and for other purposes, seconded by Councilman Russell. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Mayor Lewis declared the meeting of the Tifton City Council closed.

Chairman Thompson called to order the Tift County Board of Commissioners meeting and stated all seven members were present.

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Mathis to adopt the Resolution calling for the Referendum Election on September 18, 2007, for the purpose of determining whether or not Tift County shall be authorized to exercise redevelopment powers under the Redevelopment Powers Law of the

State of Georgia; and for other purposes, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Cal McMillan adjourned the Joint Meeting.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

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Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

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Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

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Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

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Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

**CALLED SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2007  
6:00 P.M.**

The scheduled Called Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Vice Chairman Donnie Hester on Monday, June 25, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Administrative Building. Members of the commission present were Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, and Commissioners Frankie Mathis, Buck Rigdon, Sherry Miley, C. Mike Jones and Robert Setters.

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

Vice Chairman Hester announced that this Special Called Meeting was for the purpose of adopting the 2007-2008 Operating Budget and to set the final millage rate for Tift County.

The County Manager explained the presentation of Budget A and Budget B, stating that Budget B contains the cuts to some outside agencies and moves \$55,000 into the contingency line in the budget. The bottom line figure of the budget as previously presented has not been affected.

Chairman Thompson is now present and Vice Chairman Hester relinquished the chair to Chairman Thompson.

Motion to adopt Budget A was made by Vice Chairman Hester. The motion dies for the lack of a second.

Motion was made by Commissioner Setter to adopt Budget B, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried by a 5 to 1 vote. Vice Chairman Hester voted against the motion.

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Hester, seconded by Commissioner Mathis. Motion carried unanimously.

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Chairman Grady Thompson, Dist 7

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Vice Chairman Donnie Hester, Dist 1

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Commissioner Frankie Mathis, Dist 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist 3

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Commissioner Sherry Miley, Dist 4

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Commissioner Fred W. Buck Rigdon, Dist 5

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, Dist 6

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk