

**REGULAR SESSION  
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, September 9, 2013 (6:00 P.M.)**

The scheduled Regular Session of the Tift County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman on Monday, September 9, 2013, at 6:00 P.M. in the Commission Meeting of the Administrative Building. Member of the Commission present including Chairman Thompson were Vice Chairman Sherry Miley and Commissioners Donnie Hester, Buck Rigdon, Melissa Chevers, Mike Jones and Robert Setters.

Chairman Thompson asked Commissioner Hester to give the invocation followed by the pledge to the flag.

**Minutes:** Motion approving the minutes of August 6, 2013 Workshop Session, August 6, 2013 Executive Session; August 12, 2013 Regular Session; August 21, 2013 Called Session and August 21, 2013 Executive Session was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Hester. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**ADDITION TO AGENDA:**

**Lease/Purchase Agreement with Bancorp South for a John Deere Tractor to be paid jointly by the Airport Authority and the Development Authority (I)**

Motion to make the above addition to the Agenda was made by Commissioner Chevers seconded by Commissioner Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the FY13 Performance Partnership Agreement with GEMA for a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$28,771**

**B. Motion to surplus a 1998 Ford Explorer and a 2000 Ford Crown Vic and dispose of through GovDeals**

**C. Motion to award the FY14 LMIG Project for resurfacing Chula Brookfield and Lenox Brookfield Roads to Reames Construction Company in the low bid amount of \$778,016.45**

**D. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse the contract with Georgia Power for the lighting of the new Public Works Facility**

**G. Motion authorizing the Chairman to endorse to contract the Agreement with Tift Regional Medical Center for inmate medical services subject to language change as recommended by the County Attorney**

Motion was made by Commissioner Setters approving the Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D, and G seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**E. Request for Reimbursement for Property Tax/Rueben Bennett:** The County Manager and the County Attorney advised the Board that further research has been done on this issue and the legal opinion still remains that the Board of Commissioners hands are tied for any tax relief in this matter. The laws are firm on the timeline for the matters to receive exemption and this issue has not met the laws that govern the request from Mr. Bennett. The letter that Mr. Bennett received stating that he was a disabled Veteran was not received until October 2012 which was beyond the deadline to apply for the exemption. There is no error on the part of the Tax Assessors Office and no error on Mr. Bennett's part. It is just simply that the hard time lines set forth by the State were not met. The County Attorney expressed that it is very unfortunate that we cannot help Mr. Bennett however we

must follow the laws set forth. Motion was made by Commissioner Jones to deny the reimbursement request based on legal opinion, seconded by Commissioner Setters. Motion carried unanimously.

**F. Proposed Ordinance for Appropriate Dress in Public:** Motion to table for 60 days was made by Commissioner Chevers, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried unanimously.

**H. Financing for EMA/911 Communication System:** The County Manager advised at a previous meeting the Board agreed to purchase a new Communication System for EMA/911. Staff is looking for approval and authorization for the Chairman to endorse an agreement with ACCG and B B & T to purchase the remaining balance of the Communication System. The County paid the initial deposit which was 1/3 of the total purchase price from the General Fund leaving \$2,583,667 to be financed. The option for the Board is to choose the length of the financing term at 1.79% for 5 years, 2.24% for 7 years or 2.49% for 10 years. Motion was made by Commissioner Jones to finance the remaining balance of \$2,583.667 for 7 years at 2.24%, seconded by Commissioner Chevers. Commissioners Jones, Hester and Chevers voted for the motion; Commissioners Miley, Rigdon and Setters voted against the motion. In the case of a tie vote, the Chairman is required to vote in order to break the tie. Chairman Thompson voted for the motion. Motion carries by a 4 to 3 vote.

Commissioner Setters stated that he voted against the motion, not because he is against purchasing the new Communication System but he just thinks we should have went with less years and could have saved \$96,239.11 in interest.

**I. Lease/Purchase with Bancorp South:** The County Manager that this lease purchase is for a John Deere tractor that is paid for jointly by the Airport Authority and the Development Authority for the maintenance of each entities properties. It is a 3 year lease in the amount of \$58,242. Motion was made by Commissioner Setters authorizing the Chairman to endorse the Lease/Purchase Agreement with BancorpSouth, seconded by Commissioner Rigdon. Motion carried with a 5 to 1 vote. Vice Chairman Miley voted against the motion.

**County Manager Comments: None**

**Commissioners Comments: None**

**Executive Session: None**

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

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Chairman Grady Thompson, District 7

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Vice Chairman Sherry Miley, District 4

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Commissioner Donnie Hester, District 1

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Commissioner Melissa Chevers, District 2

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Commissioner Robert Setters, Dist. 3

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Commissioner F. W. (Buck) Rigdon, District 5

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Commissioner C. Michael Jones, District 6

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Glynda Hemby, County Clerk  
9/9/2013