

June 23, 2015
Statesboro, GA

Special Called Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met for a called meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Vice-Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and welcomed staff.

Mrs. Olympia Gaines, Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Vice-Chairman Thompson, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Ethridge. The following staff were present: County Manager Tom Couch, Assistant County Manager Andy Welch, Chief Financial Officer Whitney Richland, Management Analyst Cindy Steinmann, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, Statesboro-Bulloch Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, and Tax Assessor John Scott.

Vice-Chairman Thompson asked for changes or modifications of the General Agenda. Hearing none, Vice-Chairman Thompson called for a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Ethridge and Commissioner Mosley all voting in favor of the motion.

Vice-Chairman Thompson called on Mr. Couch to begin discussion on the FY 2016 General Appropriations Budget process. Mr. Couch stated that the proposed budget has been prepared with the intent to provide the governing body, other elected officials of the county, and the general public an opportunity and a mechanism to gain information concerning the purposes for which local revenues are proposed to be spent; with further intent to provide appropriate information to assist the governing authority and other elected officials of the County in carrying out their lawful responsibilities; and, with further intent to provide for the collection and reporting of information so as to assist local policymakers and taxpayers in understanding and evaluating county government service delivery and operations. Mr. Couch stated that pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 36-81-5, as Chief Budget Officer for the governing authority, he hereby announced that the proposed FY2016 tentative General Appropriations Budget has been prepared and submitted to the governing body for consideration of adoption, pending any changes as so directed. Mr. Couch stated the tentative General Appropriations

Budget includes the general fund and all special revenue, internal service and enterprise funds and is estimated at a level of gross revenues, expenditures and other financing uses of \$62,369,857; and a level of net recurring revenues and expenditures after transfers of \$54,370,857. He stated the General Fund is set at \$36,581,857, with a contingency account in the amount of \$227,804, where \$100,000 is specifically set aside in the event the FCC nullifies inmate telephone commission revenues from special revenue funds at the Sheriff's Department and Correctional Institute.

Mr. Couch stated an ad valorem millage rate increase is projected at a level between 1.85 and 1.9 mills and will be necessary to obtain revenues necessary for the annual budget and the five-year financial plan. He stated the actual adjustment will be determined at the time the tax digest is submitted in mid-July. The governing body anticipates adopting the final budget, subject to any changes or adjustments to the tentative budget at a special called meeting at 5:30 pm, Tuesday, June 30, 2015. Mr. Couch stated the purpose of this hearing is to receive comment from the public regarding the FY 2016 General Appropriations Budget.

Vice-Chairman Thompson called for a motion to open the floor to the public for comments and/or questions regarding the FY 2016 proposed Budget at 6:37 pm. Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to open the floor to the public for comments and/or questions regarding the FY 2016 proposed Budget. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion. No one from the public was in attendance. After comments from commissioners and staff, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to close the public hearing at 6:57 pm. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

With no items of Old or Unfinished Business, Vice-Chairman Thompson stated the first item of New Business was the discussion and/or action to approve the minutes for the Budget Workshop held on June 11, 2015. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the minutes for Budget Workshop held on June 11, 2015 as presented. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Gibson all voting in favor of the motion.

Vice-Chairman Thompson stated the next item of New Business was the discussion and/or action to approve the health service agreement with Southern Correctional Medicine. Vice-Chairman Thompson called on County Attorney Jeff Akins to initiate discussion on this

matter. Mr. Akins stated this current agreement would replace the service agreement with TransformHealth for health care services for inmates at the Bulloch County Jail which expires on June 30, 2015. Mr. Akins deferred to Chief Deputy Jared Akins for further comment.

Chief Deputy Akins stated this new agreement would save the County money in health care services for inmates. He stated Transform Health has been the vendor for the jail for several years and services included providing medical and support staffing during day shift hours and pharmacy services on the weekends. Chief Deputy Akins stated that emergency care services are expensive and the theory behind the transition to Southern Correctional Medicine would focus on keeping inmates in the facility thereby saving on emergency care costs. He stated the contract was a yearly contract with a cost of \$420,000 and could be canceled if the County was not satisfied with the service provisions. After some discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the Health Service agreement with Southern Correctional Medicine (See Exhibit #2015-083). Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Gibson all voting in favor of the motion.

Vice-Chairman Thompson called for general comments or statements from the commissioners and staff. The commissioners thanked everyone for their attendance, thanked staff for all their hard work and the teamwork between all the departments. Commissioner Mosley stated that the transition to Southern Correctional Medicine was a good move and he believes it will help protect the County from potential litigation involving inmate health care issues.

Hearing no further comments from the commissioners or staff, Vice-Chairman Thompson asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Roy Thompson, Vice-Chairman

Attest: _____

Olympia Gaines, Clerk of the Board