

Summary Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
September 27, 2022

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a regular scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse, Commission Chambers, with the following board members present:

Mark NeSmith, Chairman, Dist. 4	Wiley Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1	Moses Gross, Dist. 2
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3 (absent)	Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5
Phillip V. Brown, Dist. 7	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present: County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, Attorney Joe Cargille, Fleet Services Director Jamie Parrott, Transit Director Corey McGee, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler

Media present: Chris Hurst, WPAX

Chairman NeSmith opened the meeting, and Transit Director Corey McGee gave the invocation.

- Approved minutes from the September 13, 2022 meeting
- Public Hearing declared for Thomas County and the Cities of Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, and Ochlocknee to update the Thomas County 5-yr, Comprehensive Plan. The current plan will expire on June 30, 2023
- Public Hearing declared for Thomas County and the Cities of Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, and Ochlocknee to amend the 5yr- Comprehensive Plan to include a Broadband Element. The current plan will expire on June 30, 2023
- Open Meeting to the Citizens: Chairman NeSmith recognized Candee Henderson of 1453 Egg and Butter Road, Thomasville, Georgia who reemphasized her quest for Thomas County to have 100% renewable energy by 2035. She also spoke on eliminating the use of fossil fuels, climate change, and the sea level rising in Pakistan. Chairman NeSmith also recognized Aaron Pulcifer who is retiring from the Air Force and is “transplanting” himself to Thomasville. He commented that the pitch on climate change is based on emotion and not factual information. Chairman NeSmith recognized Angie Durham of 155 Avalon Way, Thomasville, Georgia; Mark Stanley of 105 Marys Court, Ochlocknee, Georgia; and Rick Bradner of 377 Madison Grove, Thomasville, Georgia who requested the Board to consider discontinuing the use of electronic voting machines in Thomas County and secure free and fair elections by using paper ballots; Chairman NeSmith recognized Alfred Carver of 1806 Parramore Road, Coolidge, Georgia who expressed thanks to the Commissioners for the appointment to the Library Board and assured the audience that their recent concerns will not be taken lightly. He also expressed the importance of adhering to policy and procedure. Chairman NeSmith recognized Shirley Jackson of 727 Crowley Road, Thomasville, Georgia and Gloria Glass of 225 Pig Sauls Road, Boston, Georgia who expressed concern with the library and stated that the books have been vetted and approved by qualified staff and a “public” library includes everyone. Chairman NeSmith recognized Mary Beth Huber of 115 Junius Street, Thomasville, Georgia and Carla Defnall of 1022 East Washington Street, Thomasville, Georgia who expressed concern over the inappropriate books in the library system that are specifically available to children with sexual content that is considered pornographic.

- Agreed to renew the speed detection device permit for the City of Coolidge Police Department
- Ratified purchase of diesel fuel from Petroleum Products for \$3.4806/gal on 9/21/2022
- Ratified approval to renew the contract for Probation Supervision Services with CSRA Probation Services, Inc.
- Ratified approval for lease agreement with Flint Equipment for three 2023 Motor Graders with a total annual payment of \$136,500.00
- Announced a Public Property Committee meeting on October 3, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

Adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.