

Board of Commissioners

Official Minutes

Emergency Services Center
1202 Remington Avenue
January 10, 2012 9:00 a.m.

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in regular session at 9:00 a.m. at the Emergency Services Center, with the following board members present:

J. Elaine Mays, Chairman, Dist. 8	Moses L. Gross, Vice-Chairman, Dist. 2
Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1	Kenneth E. Hickey, Dist. 3
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Mary Jo Beverly, Dist. 6	Phillip V. Brown, Dist. 7

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk, Toyna Allen, secretary. Patti Dozer, Times-Enterprise and Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio, were also present.

Chairman Mays opened the meeting welcomed everyone attending.

Commissioner Beverly gave the invocation followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2011 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley and approved unanimously.

Chairman Mays turned the meeting over to Bruce Warren, County Attorney, to serve as temporary Chairman for the purpose of electing the Board Chairman. Bruce Warren opened the floor for nominations.

Bruce Warren recognized Commissioner Hickey who nominated Commissioner Mays for Chairman of the 2012 Board. Commissioner Beverly made a motion to close the nominations for Chairman. Mr. Bruce Warren confirmed Commissioner Mays' appointment as Chairman for 2012, by acclamation.

Mr. Warren turned the meeting over to Chairman Mays.

Chairman Mays thanked the board for their support. She stated that she looks forward to another year remarking that several major projects are ahead of the board in 2012.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Brown who nominated Commissioner Gross for the 2012 Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith and was approved by a 7-1 vote, Commissioner Baker abstaining.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Gross who made a motion to reappoint Bruce Warren as County Attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey and approved unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Gross thanked the board for allowing him to continue his service as Vice-Chairman. Vice-Chairman Gross recognized Mayor Max Beverly and Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Hobbs of the City of Thomasville. Commissioner Gross congratulated them on their election at the city council meeting Monday night. Mayor Beverly stated that he looks forward to working with the county for the next couple of years. The city and county have a lot before them in 2012 and can move forward and win by working together.

Chairman Mays recognized Dave Wills the Government Relations Manager for the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia. Mr. Wills expressed appreciation of Thomas County's dedication to training. Mr. Wills presented Commissioners Hershel Ansley, District 5, and Phillip Brown, District 7, with their certificates and lapel pin for completion of the Certified County Commissioner Program.

Commissioner Mays presented certificates and plaques to the following employees thanking them for their commitment to Thomas County.

5 Years of Service Certificates

David Allen	Public Works
Verna J. Arrington	Transit
Breaconta U. Bevard	Transit
Travis K. Brooks	Prison
Alice C. Bryant	Public Works
Josie L. Burkes	Transit
Melvin C. Chapple	Transit
Beverly Conney-Manning	Jail
Charles W. Eddings, Jr.	Building Inspection
Lisa Griffis	Fire Department
Kevin L. Gullion	Sheriff's Office
James H. Hart	EMS
Johnnie M. Hicks	Transit
Malcolm E. Hurst	Sheriff's Office
Yvonne E. Jackson	Transit
Andra M. James	Equipment Shop
Sharon D. Jones	Transit
Ronald J. Lasseter	Building Maintenance
Sara Perkins	Transit
Marvin P. Pittman	Prison
Scotty W. Richards	Sheriff's Office
Yugonda Steward	Clerk of Court
Jacquelyn A. Slater	911
Lelia K. Spires	Sheriff's Office
Aldrena Thomas	Transit
Deloris J. Thomas	Transit
Corey J. Williams	Prison
Quinton L. Willis	Prison
Christy M. Wright	Magistrate Court

10 Years of Service Plaques

Joseph F. Bass, Jr.	Public Works
Cherish L. Baillargeon	911
Thomas M. Bray	Public Works
Toyna Allen-Brooks	Commissioners Office
William R. Cason	Jail
James C. Coffee, Jr.	Sanitation
Alton Levon Gassett	Fire Department
Kathleen L. Golden	Probate Court
Gary R. Heald	Public Works
Bobbie H. Hickey	Prison
Franklin L. Knight	Building Maintenance
Diana R. Richards	911
Raymond J. Thomas	Prison
Debra B. Tucker	Tax Assessors
Jennifer S. Tucker	Clerk of Superior Court

15 Years of Service Plaques

Robert T. Brettel	Sheriff's Office
Troy D. Gay	Prison
Edward Kevin Lee	Vice
Robert L. McKinnon, Jr.	Prison
Willie "Buddy" E. Rhoden, Jr.	Sheriff's Office

20 Years of Service Plaques

Tony M. Bodiford	Public Works
Eugene A. Crew	Building Maintenance
Robert "Bobby" Geer	Prison

25 Years of Service Plaques

David H. Godwin	Sheriff's Office
Derrick C. Ogletree	Commissioners' Office
Robert T. Rhodes, Jr.	Public Works

Chairman Mays and Michael Stephenson, County Manager, recognized the following employees for completing the 10th Session of the Employee Deming Management Method by presenting them with certificates:

Robert McKinnon, Public Works

Brandon Waddell, 911

Kenneth Humphrey, Fire Department
Seneca Springle, Public Works
Lorie Mitchell, Commissioners Office

Kathy Brooks, Building Inspections
Fred Brents, EMS

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel, \$2.8698 per gallon from Plantation Petroleum and gas, \$2.7450 per gallon from Petroleum Products. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley and approved unanimously.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Ansley who made a motion to adopt the GASB Statement 54 – Financial Policies. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beverly and approved unanimously.

GASB Statement 54 – Financial Policies

Commitments - Only the Thomas County Board of Commissioners may commit a revenue stream to be used for a specific purpose. Commitments are made through Thomas County Board of Commissioners' motions. Only the Thomas County Board of Commissioners may modify or rescind the commitment.

Assignments - Only the Thomas County Board of Commissioners may assign a revenue stream to be used for a specific purpose. Assignments are made through Thomas County Board of Commissioners' motions. Only the Thomas County Board of Commissioners may modify or rescind the assignment. Any portion of fund balance that is used to balance the subsequent years' budget is reported as assigned fund balance.

Flow Assumptions – When both restricted and unrestricted amounts of fund balance are available for use for expenditures incurred, it is the County's policy to use restricted amounts first and then unrestricted amounts as they are needed. For unrestricted amounts of fund balance, it is the County's policy to use fund balance in the following order:

- Committed
- Assigned
- Unassigned

Approved by the Thomas County Board of Commissioners this the 10th day of January, 2012.

Mr. Stephenson stated that the policy can be amended except where restricted by law.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to appoint Gene Christie to the Thomasville/Thomas County Recreation Board. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Gross and approved unanimously.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to appoint Robert Sullivan to the Thomas County Public Library System Board to fill an unexpired term ending 6/30/2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to set the 2012 Qualifying Fees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley and approved unanimously.

2012 Qualifying Fees

Sheriff	\$2,107
Superior Court Clerk	\$1,691
Tax Commissioner	\$1,691
Probate Judge	\$1,691
Magistrate	\$1,691
State Court Judge	\$1,671
Solicitors General	\$1,146
Coroner	\$825
County Commissioners	\$108
School Board Member	\$61

Chairman Mays recognized Carolyn Simmons the Director of the Thomas County Health Department.

Mr. Stephenson presented his review of the 2011 Work Plan and a draft of the 2012 Work Plan. He asked the board to review the 2012 Work Plan and have comments ready for the Work Session on the January 26.

Mr. Warren presented a draft ordinance for the collection of past due taxes. The draft has limited use with notice requirements and actions to take upon no response. Mr. Warren also stated this will need to be addressed annually.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adopt the ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING USE OF PROVISION OF CHAPTER 5 OF TITLE 48 OF OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA IN SITUATIONS WHERE REAL PROPERTY IS IN AN UNREPRESENTED ESTATE. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley and approved unanimously.

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING USE OF PROVISION OF CHAPTER 5 OF
TITLE 48 OF OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA
IN SITUATIONS WHERE REAL PROPERTY IS IN AN UNREPRESENTED ESTATE**

WHEREAS certain situations arise from time to time where ad valorem taxes cannot be effectively collected because of the failure of heirs at law to administer estates where the decedent owned real property at the time of his/her death; and

WHEREAS Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia provides a procedure for judicial in rem foreclosures which enables the collection of taxes through a judicial proceeding;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Thomas County authorizes the appropriate public official to utilize the provisions of Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia in situations where notice cannot be properly served because of the death of an owner of real property and the estate is unrepresented.

This ordinance shall become effective on February 1, 2012.
ADOPTED this the 10th day of January, 2012.

Commissioner NeSmith commended the Sheriff's Office staff for their efforts in the collection of past due taxes that has collected nearly 2 million dollars.

Commissioner Beverly presented the recommendations of the Public Property Committee.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Public Property Committee and award the plaster contract for the historic courthouse to Pelham Variety Works for \$186,862. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker and approved unanimously.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to approve a change order for the Thomasville Glass contract, \$7,400 for 3M window film to be added to the annex steel frame windows in order to meet the heat gain/loss ratings for the heating and cooling equipment as recommended by Lang Mechanical and the Public Property Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker and approved unanimously.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to approve a change order for Pelham Variety Works to add 3M window film to the wood frame windows in the main building, \$17,787 3M film and less \$12,110 for alternate PPG glass, in order to meet the heat gain/loss ratings for the heating and cooling equipment as recommended by Lang Mechanical and the Public Property Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley and approved unanimously.

Commissioner Beverly noted that Pelham Variety's contract will have a net increase of \$5,768.

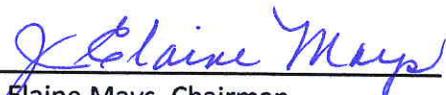
Meetings set: Commission District 7 Meeting set, 2/2/12 at Thomasville Resource Center
Purchase Committee Meeting set, 1/12/12 at Commissioners Office
Emergency Services Committee Meeting set, 1/17/12, Emergency Services Ctr
Public Property Committee Meeting set, 1/19/2012, Emergency Services Center
Commissioners Retreat set, 1/26/2012, Thomasville Airport, Conference Room
Road Committee Meeting set, 2/2/12, Public Works
Town Hall Meeting Schedule reviewed:

Town of Ochlocknee	Community Center	6:00 p.m.	Tuesday, January 17
City of Meigs	Community Center	6:00 p.m.	Monday, January 23
City of Thomasville	Municipal Building	7:00 p.m.	Monday, January 30
City of Barwick	City Hall	6:00 p.m.	Tuesday, January 31
City of Coolidge	City Hall	6:00 p.m.	Monday, February 6
City of Boston	Community Center	6:00 p.m.	Thursday, February 9
City of Pavo	City Hall	6:30 p.m.	Monday, February 13

Commissioner Brown also announced that he is having a Commission District 7 Community Meeting on 2/2/2012 at 6 p.m. at the Thomasville Resource Center on Varnedoe Street.

Mr. Stephenson explained the position of the county in the SPLOST election. Commissioners are allowed to advocate their position but no county funds can be spent in its promotion.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Beverly and approved unanimously.



J. Elaine Mays, Chairman

ATTEST:



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk