

Board of Commissioners

Official Minutes

Emergency Services Center
1202 Remington Avenue
August 14, 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, Toyona Allen-Brooks, secretary, and M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media representatives present were Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio, and Patti Dozier, Times-Enterprise.

Sheriff Carlton Powell gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to approve the minutes of the 7/24/12 regular board meeting, 7/30/12 special called meeting, 8/9/12 10:00 a.m. public hearing, and the 8/9/12 6:00 p.m. public hearing as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

Chairman Mays recognized Brad Sheffield, Andare Group, the county's consultant for the transit system. Mr. Sheffield presented the board the FY2012 Annual Report.

Chairman Mays recognized Scott Rich, Tax Assessor Board Member. Mr. Rich and Chairman Mays presented certificates to Herman Davis for the completion the Appraiser I Course and Daniel Stokes for the completion of the Appraiser IV Course.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel, \$3.0096 per gallon from Petroleum Products on 8/2/2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the purchase of the 1988 Koehring, Model LRT 180T, 15-Ton crane from federal surplus/DOAS on 8/9/2012 for \$4,500, understanding that DOAS will locate a crane at the same price and condition if this unit is not awarded to Thomas County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to approve the tax write-offs for 2009-2011 Mark Harkness and 2011 South GA Family Foot totaling \$2,199.34, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

Chairman Mays recognized Alford Bryant of Riverwind Subdivision, Meigs District. Mr. Bryant expressed his concerns for the City of Meigs' water system and what would happen if Meigs' loses its charter. Bruce Warren, County Attorney, explained that there are those who purchase water systems as a business. He also stated that they should offer their system for sale prior to disbanding. Mr. Stephenson stated that there is a process in place and addressed in Georgia Law that would allow the county to designate a special taxing district to settle outstanding debt incurred by the City of Meigs. The debt would be assumed by the Meigs citizens. Jay Ridenhower, Environmental Specialist, Thomas County Health Department, stated that the residents of Riverwind can individual dig wells providing they have the required lot size.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to approve the contract for Randy Aldridge Masonry for laying the pavers in a basket weave design on the first floor of the historic courthouse for \$14,212. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Beverly who made a motion to approve Pelham Variety Change Order No. 2 for plastering under the front porch, main entrance of the historic courthouse for \$7,650. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker.

Commissioner Beverly stated that the building Maintenance Warehouse roof needs to be replaced and bids will be issued soon.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the bid from Scruggs for asphalt, \$685,000, and tack from Blackridge Emulsions, \$13,250, for the SPLOST resurfacing projects approved at the July 24, 2012 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

Commissioner Beverly thanked the Board for all the prayers and concerns for her family because of the loss of her mother, Doris Smith.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to enter into closed session for attorney client discussion at 10:15 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

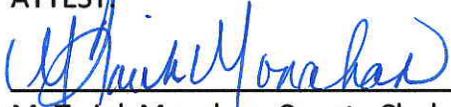
Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to reenter open session at 10:25 a.m. with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.

The board thoroughly discussed the tentative tax millage rates.

Chairman Mays recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. The motion carried unanimously; Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Beverly and Brown voting aye.



J. Elaine Mays, Chairman

ATTEST


M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk