

Board of Commissioners
Official Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers
116 West Jefferson Street
August 14, 2013

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a Public Hearing and Special Called Meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse, Commission Chambers, with the following board members present:

J. Elaine Mays, Chairman, Dist. 8 (absent)	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
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	Phillip V. Brown, Dist. 7

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, Twink Monahan, County Clerk, and Derrick Ogletree, IS Director. Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio, and Patti Dozier were also present.

Chairman Mays recognized Michael Stephenson who gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mays explained the public hearing procedure then recognized Michael Stephenson the County Manager illustrate the financial status of the county. Mr. Stephenson gave a PowerPoint presentation of a handout that was distributed.

Chairman Mays declared a public hearing to receive public comments.

Those who spoke at the hearing were Sharon Fykes, Gladys Mudridge, Elijah Spauding, Tim Hobbs, Rodney Sewell, Edward Marshall, Dewitt Rehberg, Richard Brown, Susan Holland, Gene Sampson, Edward Jones, Terry Mills, Nancy Hoffman, Michael Edwards, and Lynette Hitt. There was a variety of subject matter discussed; furloughs, out-sourcing payroll, the economy, consolidation, budget procedures, financing, deferring purchases of equipment and fire trucks, postponing employee raises, property assessments, sales tax declines, employee turnover, staff reductions, and reserve funds.

Chairman Mays called for additional comments and being none declared the public hearing closed at 11:50 a.m.

Chairman Mays recognized Vice-Chairman Gross who made a motion to approve the following 2013 Property Tax Millage resolution increasing the Thomas County millage rates in the incorporated, unincorporated, Emergency Services, Fire Districts 1, 2 and 3 taxing districts and the Thomas County Board of Education millage rate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried by a five to three vote. Chairman Mays, Vice-Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, and Brown voting aye. Commissioners Hickey, Grady and NeSmith voting nay.

RESOLUTION
THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
P.O. BOX 920
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA 31799
August 14, 2013

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting for County purposes in a special called meeting and for the purpose of setting millage and levying a tax for 2013, that it be and is hereby ordered that nine and three hundred fifty thousandths (9.350) mills on each one dollar of all taxable property in the incorporated areas of said Thomas County, and that it be and is hereby ordered that nine and three hundred fifty thousandths (9.350) mills with a roll back of Insurance Premium Tax of one and two hundred thirty two thousandths (1.232) mills leaving eight and one hundred eighteen thousandths (8.118) mills on each one dollar of all taxable property in the unincorporated area in said Thomas County, be and the same is hereby levied for Thomas County purposes, said rate to be apportioned for legal purposes of said Thomas County under constitutional limitations of the State of Georgia; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be, and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said Thomas County purposes, as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS: The proper Legislation was enacted and a referendum was held there under as provided therein on June 16, 1965, at which time the voters of Fire District Number 1 and 2, as described in said Legislation approved said Act creating fire districts in Thomas County and authorizing the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, to levy upon the taxable value of all property within such fire districts for fire protection purposes in said districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in regular meeting for County purposes, that it be and it is hereby ordered that three and three tenths (3.300) mills upon the taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said County fire District 1, and three and three tenths (3.300) mills upon taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said Fire District 2, as described in said act creating Fire Districts in Thomas County, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of said County furnishing fire protection services within such district; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be, and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said purposes by law; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of Commissioners of Thomas County have adopted Resolution dated December 9, 1986, that there is created within Thomas County, Georgia, pursuant to the authority of Article IX, Section II, paragraph VI, of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, of 1983, a special service district to be known as Fire District No. 3 of Thomas County, Georgia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in regular meeting for County purposes, that it be and it is hereby ordered that two and four tenths (2.400) mills upon the taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said County Fire District 3, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of said County furnishing fire protection services within such district; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said purpose by law; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of Commissioners of Thomas County have adopted a Resolution dated February 11, 2003 that there is created in Thomas County, pursuant to the authority of Article IX, Section II Paragraph VI of the Constitution of the State of Georgia of 1983, a special service district to be known as Emergency Service District of Thomas County, Georgia.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in a regular meeting for County Purposes, that it be and it is hereby ordered that one and eight tenths (1.800) mills upon the taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said county Emergency Services District, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of said County furnishing emergency services within such district; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said purpose by law; and,

WHEREAS: The proper authorities of the State of Georgia, have levied for General Purposes including the support of the State of Georgia:

One-fifth mills (.20) upon the taxable value of all property located in incorporated and unincorporated areas of Thomas County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, that it be and is hereby ordered that said mills above be assessed for State purposes and that the Tax Commissioner of said Thomas County, be instructed to collect the same as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS: the Board of Education of Thomas County, Georgia, having recommended a levy of fourteen and seven hundred fourteen thousandths mills (14.714) on all taxable property in said Thomas County, not embraced within the present corporate limits of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, for the support and maintenance of education for County-wide schools, as provided by law for the taxable year of 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in regular meeting that the taxable year 2013 a tax of fourteen and seven hundred fourteen thousandths mills (14.714) for the support and maintenance for County-wide schools be levied on each one dollar of all the taxable property in said Thomas County not embraced within the present corporate limits of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County, Georgia, be and is hereby instructed to collect the same for the support and maintenance for County-wide schools for the taxable year of 2013 as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Commissioner is hereby instructed to set a due date of November 15, 2013 for 2013 taxes.

Adopted on the 14th day of August, 2013

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



J. Elaine Mays, Chairman
Thomas County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



M. Wink Monahan, County Clerk