

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
January 28, 2014

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:

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

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, Toyna Brooks, Board Secretary, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Chris Hurst with WPAX Radio.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2014 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown, and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross recognized Leroy Ryals the Head Coach for the Thomasville City Schools. Commissioner Brown presented Coach Ryals with the following proclamation.

A PROCLAMATION

Honoring Leroy Ryals, Head Football Coach and Athletic Director of Thomasville High School, Thomasville, Georgia, on his selection as Thomasville Times All Area Coach of the Year.

WHEREAS, Leroy Ryals earned a Bachelors degree in Business Education from the University of South Florida in 1996 and his Masters Degree in Counseling from the University of Florida in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Leroy Ryals, a native of Sarasota, Fla., is married to the former Keisha Carithers of Athens, Georgia and they have three children, TaQuesha, Anika and Elasee; and

WHEREAS, Leroy Ryals was hired as the Head Coach/Athletic Director of Thomasville High School in the beginning of the 100<sup>th</sup> year of High School Football and the school's 21<sup>st</sup> Head Coach of the Bulldogs; and

WHEREAS, Under Coach Ryals leadership, the Thomasville High School Bulldog football team has been rejuvenated in Coach Ryals first season with the Bulldogs, and led the Bulldogs to the second round of the Class AA playoffs; and

WHEREAS, Coach Ryals is known for the importance of teaching the proper values to the young men he coaches; and

HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that the Thomas County Board of Commissions honor Leroy Ryals, Head Football Coach and Athletic Director of Thomasville High School, Thomasville, Thomas County, on his selection as All Area Coach of the Year by the Thomasville Times.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel on 1/21/2014 from Plantation Petroleum at \$2.9899 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hickey. The motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the 2014 Financial Authorization Resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

THOMAS COUNTY  
FINANCIAL AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION

I, M. Twink Monahan, certify that I am Clerk of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, with Federal I. D. Number 58-6000893, and that the resolutions on this document were adopted at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners on January 28, 2014. These resolutions appear in the minutes of this meeting and have not been rescinded or modified, towit:

Any two agents listed herein are authorized to exercise the powers granted as indicated below:

Name & Title	Signature	Facsimile
1. Moses L. Gross, Chairman	X _____	X _____
2. Merrill E. Baker, Finance Chairman	X _____	X _____
3. Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager	X _____	X _____

Powers granted are listed as follows:

1. Open any deposit or share accounts in the name of the County.
2. Endorse checks and orders for the payment of money or otherwise withdraw or transfer funds on deposit with Financial Institutions.
3. Enter into a written lease for the purpose of renting, maintaining, accessing and terminating a Safe Deposit Box in the Financial Institutions.

I further certify that the Thomas County Board of Commissioners has, and at the time of adoption of this resolution had full power and lawful authority to adopt the foregoing resolutions and to confer the powers granted to the persons named who have full power and lawful authority to exercise the same.

In a witness whereof, I have subscribed my name to this document and affixed the seal of Thomas County, on January 28, 2014.

ATTEST: COUNTY CLERK

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to accept the high bid of \$251,150.00 for the surplus county property at 101 S. Broad Street, known as Annex II, from Kevin Kelly, of Washington Street and authorized the county attorney to proceed with the closing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. The motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross recognized Kevin Kelly who told the board that he did not know exactly what he was going to do the building but he was going to completely remodel it and maintain its original integrity. He also stated that he was not going to resale the building. His idea is to have a business that would draw people to Thomasville and bring more commercial activity to the area.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to set the 2014 qualifying fees for the County Commission and Board of Education, Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

#### Open to Citizens

Chairman Gross recognized Al Bryan, Meigs, GA. Mr. Bryan spoke to the board about the 2014 Budget hearings and planning session.

Chairman Gross recognized Sabrina Boykins-Everett, the Superintendent of Schools for the Thomasville City School System. Ms. Everett stated that she had just left the school board meeting and had hoped to be here for the presentation of the proclamation to Coach Ryals. Ms. Everett also stated that the administrative offices of the Thomasville City School System is moving to the old federal building on Broad Street and that they look forward to being neighbors. They will close the offices on February 14<sup>th</sup> on Jackson Street and open on February 17<sup>th</sup> on Broad Street.

Chairman Gross recognized Roger Walker of Hwy 319, Thomasville. Mr. Walker spoke to the board about personnel, pay increases, insurance and planning.

Michael Stephenson handed out the draft of the 2014 Work Plan. Each department has submitted their plans for the year. Mr. Stephenson stated that if there were any questions after reviewing to get in touch with him. After Commissioner Grady questioned the Hill Building listing, Mr. Stephenson said that he would double check for budget compliance.

Mr. Stephenson updated the board concerning the UGA Extension Service. He has met with the coordinator and was given a list of positions and their space requirements. The project is listed on the

agenda for the planning session for 1/29/2014 which was cancelled due to the icy weather and cancellations from some of the listed participants.

The following committee meetings were announced: Public Property – 2/6/14 at 8:30 a.m.; Personnel was changed from 2/6/14 to 2/13/14 at 5:00 p.m.; Purchasing – 2/18/14 at 8:00 a.m.; Road – 2/12/14 at 8:00 a.m. Commissioner Mays said that she is meeting with each of the Emergency Services departments and will call a meeting after these meetings.

Commissioner Mays said the appointment to the Joint Development Authority will be discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting.

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



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Moses L. Gross, Chairman

ATTEST:



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M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk