

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
March 25, 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 Chris Rodd, County Attorney and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozer, Times-Enterprise and Chris Hurst with WPAX Radio.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

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

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 18, 18 (closed session) 20, 20 (closed), 2014 board meetings. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown, and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the proposal to contract with Ross + associates for the Impact fee Program Amendment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Chairman Gross called for discussion. Commissioner NeSmith requested more time to review the proposal. Commissioner Mays withdrew her motion and Commissioner Ansley withdrew his second. The board asked that the proposal be placed on the April 8th agenda.

Chairman Gross recognized Jeanine Haynes with Georgia Transmission Authority. Ms. Haynes updated the board on their progress. Of the Ozell Road / Eason Crossing section property owners, 21 of 24 have granted permission to survey their property. The Ozell Road to Pavo section is 35 of 55. All property owners and the adjacent property owners all receive a certified letter about the utility route. There will be two (2) locations for Open House community meetings. In May, there will be one in the Boston Community Center and in June at the Salem Baptist Church. Each date will have two meetings, one during the day and the second in the evening.

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the Georgia DOAS Surplus Property Eligibility Application. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Commissioner Mays was identified as Thomas County's official county representative during the County Roll Call at the 2014 ACCG Annual Conference in Savannah. The roll call will be on Saturday, April 12, at 2:30 p.m.

Chairman Gross recognized Mrs. Venesia Calhoun. Mrs. Calhoun told the board that she has been a resident of the Forest Acres subdivision for over 25 years. When she first purchased her home there was not an issue with rainwater runoff or with the septic tanks in the area. Now every time it rains the septic tanks back up and run into the tub and overflows the toilets. She and several other residents have extended their drain fields and pump their tanks out regularly, to no avail. She said that she has surveyed the area and some residents do not want to go onto the city's sewer system because of the costs involved. Several homes are also rentals. The streets involved are Shortleaf Place, Forest Hills Dr. and Cassidy Road Ext. The subdivision has the city water and utilities, just not sewer.

She asked the board of assistance to help find a solution to the problems. Commissioner Baker said that the city is aware of the situation and that in previous meetings with them it was stated that sewer hookup would have to be mandatory for all residents for it to be profitable for them. Mr. Baker stated that Randy Holton is going to proceed with his development on Old Cassidy Road causing more storm water runoff. The Board decided to have Mr. Stephenson meet with Steve Sykes and look into the matter.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the proposal from Leon Lynn, Jinright, Ryan, & Lynn, Architects & Planners, for a feasibility study for the Thomas Plaza and the Hill Building Renovations for \$7,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye. Commissioner Baker had left the meeting during the vote.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve authorizing the manager to execute the contract with CCH for the Design Build Project for the expansion and renovation of the Jail Justice Center not to exceed two-million as set forth in a local referendum and the stated cost limitation for the project by category listed as Exhibit B of the contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

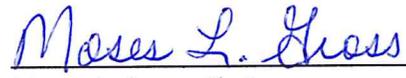
Commissioner Mays acknowledged the Mr. and Mrs. Huddleston. Commissioner Mays told them that the board had met concerning Mr. Colvin's junk yard. The board is allowing Johnny Reichert to meet with Mr. Colvin and give him the opportunity to bring the junk yard into the county's code. Commissioner Mays said that they will keep the Huddlestons updated. Helen Huddleston thanked the board for their efforts.

The results of the 2014 Government Management Indicators (GOMI) Survey were distributed to all the commissioners to review.

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

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to enter into open session and report there is no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

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



Moses L. Gross, Chairman

ATTEST:



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk