Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
May 13, 2014

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.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 Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, 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 Hickey 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 April 22, 2014 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown, and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross asked Michael Stephenson to describe the Explorer Award and the steps the E-911 Process Management Team did to achieve this award. Mr. Stephenson explained that the E-911 Process Management Team is the third team to complete the department's processes. Mr. Stephenson also said that their report is only the beginning of the journey. From this point forward they will be reviewing the report and that evolves as they discover how things can be done better. This effort is extra work in addition to everything else they are doing at E-911. Mr. Stephenson presented Chavetta Carter, Melany Harper, Brandon Waddell, Brandon Bradley, and Kathy Hays with a framed certificate of recognition and thanked them for their work.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the gas purchase made on 5/7/2014 from Petroleum Products for 7,500 gallons at $2.84 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. 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 adopt the resolution to adopt the 2014 Annual Update to the Capital Improvement Element Amending the Comprehensive Plan and forward the resolution and annual update to the Southwest Georgia Regional Board for processing. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross stated that in the agenda packet is a letter from Marsha Demoga, City Manager for the City of Meigs, requesting a surplus pursuit unit for their Police Department. The Board requested that the Mayor and City Council submit the request.

Chairman Gross opened the meeting to the citizens wishing to address the board.

Chairman Gross recognized Roger Walker, Highway 319 North. Mr. Walker talked to the board concerning the current status of the crisis center. He also asked if the people the county appoints to the Georgia Pines Board and the Southwest GA Regional Board, MH/MR/SA, report to the county commission.

Michael Stephenson presented the board with the 2012 SPLOST requested budget. He asked that the board consider adopting the budget within the next 30 days.

Purchasing Committee Report and Recommendations

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Purchasing Committee to purchase one (1) Ambulance for $124,540 from Custom Truck & Body the sole bidder. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Purchasing Committee to purchase concrete pipe for stock as needed from the low bidders per item: Bates Precast Concrete Pipe for all flared end sections and Rinker Materials for all 8' concrete pipe sections.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the recommendation to contract with Scruggs Company for the purchase and installation of asphalt for Judicial Center parking lot expansion priced at $111.93 per ton, totaling $31,340.40 to be funded with the 2006 SPLOST funds. 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 NeSmith reported that the bids for metal roofing materials for Building Maintenance Shop had one bidder. Dean Steel Buildings bid was $8,985.05 which the county manager was able to approve. The county crews will do all the installation and repairs to the interior of the building.

Road Committee Report and Recommendations

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation add the Wade Chastain Road to the tentative paving list, .81 miles between Hall Road and H Sherrod Road. 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 Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation to construct a 40' x 18' concrete bridge on Coolidge Rocky Ford Road and fund from the bridge

maintenance account in the General Fund with an estimated cost of $45,000. 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.

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation to add Tall Timbers Drive and Timber Ridge Drive to the 2012 SPLOST project authorization list for resurfacing, Tall Timbers Drive budgeted at $24,000 and Timber Ridge Drive budgeted at $40,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Commissioner Hickey explained the recommendation from the Road to have the County Attorney proceed with abandonment procedures to declare surplus property in Oak Hill Subdivision located at the end of Donna Lane and at the end of Phillip Lane. The county does not need this land for construction or drainage. The board and the county attorney concluded to postpone any action until the property is surveyed and all property owners involved are identified and property descriptions are available.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter into closed session at 9:46 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to reenter open session reporting that there is no action to be taken as a result of the closed session. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Commissioner Ansley reminded the board that Georgia Transmission was having the town hall meetings in Boston this afternoon from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adjourn. 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.

Moses L. Gross

Moses L. Gross, Chairman

ATTEST:

M. Twink Monahan

M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk