Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
July 8, 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 J. Stephenson and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise and Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Chairman Gross called upon Michael Stephenson to give the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Ansley who made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2014 board meeting. 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.

Public Hearing

Chairman Moses Gross opened a public hearing to discuss the CDBG Project 11 p-y-136-1-5364, Oakhill Road Subdivision Street and Drainage Improvements close-out. Chairman Gross called for comments for the public. Being none, Chairman Gross closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the close-out documents for the Oak Hill Subdivision, CDBG Project 11 p-y-136-1-5364. 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.

Public Hearing

Chairman Moses Gross opened a public hearing to receive citizen input concerning the closure of the Vann Road, off the McGarrah Road. Chairman Gross called for comments for the public. The board members discussed the request made by the sole property owners, Christine B. and Carl W. Caughran; where the process to proceed with the road abandonment was approved at

the November 12, 2013 board meeting. There were no further comments and Chairman Gross closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the landowners request to abandon the Vann Road. 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.

Charles Williams with Workforce 44 was not present.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to adopt the 2012 – 2018 SPLOST Budget of $22,000,000. 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.

**2012-2018 SPLOST PROJECT LENGTH BUDGET**

| # | Revenue Name | Approved 2014 REVENUES | Approved 2015 REVENUES | Approved 2014 EXPENSES | Approved 2015 EXPENSES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31-3200 | SPLOST REVENUE | 19,000,000 | 19,000,000 | | |
| 34-3300 | LMIG-DOT | 0 | 3,000,000 | | |
| **#** | **Project Name** | | | | |
| 2108 | JJC Expansion | | | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| 4200 | Highways & Streets | | | 17,000,000 | 700,000 |
| 4209 | Egg & Butter Road | | | 0 | 350,000 |
| 4225 | Pinetree - South | | | 0 | 3,387,166 |
| 4226 | Pinetree-North-A | | | 0 | 1,616,736 |
| 4227 | Pinetree-North-B | | | 0 | 172,408 |
| 4228 | Pinetree East | | | 0 | 153,226 |
| 4229 | Beachton Road | | | 0 | 414,120 |
| 4231 | Griffin Road | | | 0 | 203,580 |
| 4232 | Palmer Road | | | 0 | 487,500 |
| 4233 | Pummy Road | | | 0 | 261,120 |
| 4234 | Stewart/Resurf/Widening | | | 0 | 595,349 |
| 4235 | Stewart/Maddox | | | 0 | 90,000 |
| 4236 | Old Bee Line Road | | | 0 | 135,720 |
| 4237 | Lawhorne Road | | | 0 | 263,640 |
| 4238 | Airport Road | | | 0 | 173,160 |
| 4239 | Sally Road | | | 0 | 162,887 |
| 4241 | Legion Road | | | 0 | 47,056 |
| 4242 | Old 84 East | | | 0 | 343,872 |
| 4243 | Scott Road | | | 0 | 276,120 |
| 4244 | Parramore Road | | | 0 | 263,640 |
| 4245 | Lower Boston Road | | | 0 | 351,780 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4246 | Pendergast Road | | | 0 | 69,420 |
| 4247 | Singletary Road | | | 0 | 110,760 |
| 4248 | Tall Timbers Road | | | 0 | 24,000 |
| 4249 | Timber Ridge Road | | | 0 | 40,000 |
| 4251 | Metcalfe Road | | | 0 | 2,122,940 |
| 4252 | Hall/Newton/A Sherrod Road | | | 0 | 202,800 |
| 4253 | Stewart Road | | | 0 | 319,600 |
| 4256 | Springhill Road | | | 0 | 790,140 |
| 4259 | County Line Road | | | 0 | 166,520 |
| 4260 | Fredonia/19/County Line | | | 0 | 25,740 |
| 4261 | Harts Mill Road | | | 0 | 304,640 |
| 4264 | Boston Monticello Road | | | 0 | 732,108 |
| 4265 | Five Forks Road | | | 0 | 670,725 |
| 4266 | Gatlin Creek/122/Summerhill | | | 0 | 86,580 |
| 4268 | Old 84 West | | | 0 | 112,210 |
| 4270 | Whitney Camp Road | | | 0 | 136,500 |
| 4274 | Salem Road | | | 0 | 171,600 |
| 4278 | Smith Road | | | 0 | 0 |
| 4283 | Myrick Road | | | 0 | 55,000 |
| 4284 | Sunnybelle Acres | | | 0 | 47,580 |
| 4285 | Hall Road /319/By-pass | | | 0 | 57,720 |
| 9010 | Other financing uses | | | 0 | 3,304,337 |
| | | 19,000,000 | 22,000,000 | 19,000,000 | 22,000,000 |

Chairman Gross recognized Christopher Warren. Mr. Warren is requesting the release of the conditions on lot #6 on Heatherway Lane to build a residence.

Chairman Gross recognized Tom Lehmann. Mr. Lehmann was asked to give opinion on the matter. Bruce Warren, County Attorney, has a conflict and recused himself. Mr. Lehmann stated that when rezoned in 2008 there were conditions on the approval and one being the limitation of 4 additional building lots and two existing homes with the lot in question being designated an outparcel. Mr. Warren is asking for one more building lot. In Mr. Lehmann's opinion Mr. Warren is asking for a variance to the previous ruling, which is discretionary to the commission how it is handled. Mr. Lehmann distributed copies of the Georgia Code documents referencing Zoning and Planning §769 Circumstances constituting undue hardship and Zoning and Building Laws §25:32 Variances and §25:33 Stands of review; appeal. (These documents are in the agenda packet)

Mr. Stephenson gave a history of the subdivisions and the many meetings that were held to come to an agreement between concerned landowner and the contractor, Ken Cone. The matter went to mediation with agreed upon 12 conditions. Six houses and six lots total on the 8/12/2008 plat is the operative plat. (The historical documents for this subdivision are included in the agenda packet.)

Commissioner Mays asked if the landowners involved in the 2008 agreement had been notified of the request. Ms. Donna Holbert, Zoning Assistant, said they had not. Mr. Warren asked that all homeowners be notified not just a single home owner that drives through the property. After a lengthy discussion of the plats, conditions and different interpretations, Chairman Gross called for a motion.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to lay the issue on the table until the August 12 board meeting and all the landowners be notified of Christopher Warren's request. 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.

The request from Mr. Charles Reichert to resurface the Reichertville Road was turned over to the Road Committee.

The Impact Fee discussion was turned over to the Finance Committee.

OPEN SESSION

Chairman Gross recognized Al Bryan, Meigs, GA. Mr. Bryan thanked Mr. Stephenson for the Public Works, 911 and Fleet management Deming reports. He stated the reports were quite detailed and gave a good picture of the activities of each department.

Mr. Stephenson updated the board concerning the schedule to set the 2014 Millage Rate. He said the he will be receiving the tax digest figures soon from the Tax Commissioner and he plans to use the roll back figures for the tentative millage rate. Using the roll-back rates means that the county will not have to hold the three public hearings required if taxes are raised. The tentative rates can be set at the July 22 board meeting and adoption of the 2014 Millage Rates can be at the August 12th board meeting.

Bruce Warren updated the board concerning Mr. Colvin's junk yard zoning violations for the Hwy 84 at Legion Road and the Old 84 locations. In order for the cease and desist order to be issued, there needs to be a designation of an Acting Zoning administrator, in Johnny Reichert's absence.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Ansley who made a motion to appoint Donna Holbert as Acting Zoning Administrator in Johnny Reichert's absence. 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 Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Purchasing Committee to accept the best bid from The Scruggs Company for an estimated 4,200 tons of super pave asphalt and to include the Smith Road resurfacing, at $67.50 per ton. 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 Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Committee and accept the best bid for one Milnor washing machine from Tristate Technical Services for $9,258 and one Unimac dryer from Commercial & Coin Laundry Equipment Co. for $3,536 for the Prison. 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.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committees recommendation to declare surplus 11 county units and send to auction at Midway Machinery on July 18, 2014 in Midway Florida. 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.

| Unit # | Description | Location | Serial Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 2003 Crown Vic | Prison | 2FAHP71W33X178524 |
| 30 | 2000 Ford Crown Vic | E-911 | 2FAFP71W9YX173276 |
| 103 | 1995 Ford F-150 4.9L | Public Works | 1FTEF15Y5SNB27759 |
| 128 | 1984 Chevrolet 1/2T | Public Works | 1GCDC14H4EF330307 |
| 130 | 1986 Ford 1/2T | Prison | 1FTEF15YXGNA46215 |
| 211 | 1997 Ford F350 | Public Works | 1FDKF37FXVED13226 |
| 242 | 1988 Wallace Lowboy | Public Works | DLBT35270000881588 |
| 305 | 1998 International 4700 | Public Works | 1HTSCABM3WH524682 |
| 309 | 2006 Peterbilt 320 | Sanitation | 1NPZL00X76D716433 |
| 619 | Rotavator M100KK2 | Public Works | 9481138 |
| 10-104 | 2000 F750 Roll-Off | Sanitation | 3FDXF75N3YMA24985 |

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation to include the 1.51 miles of resurfacing on the Smith Road for $75,000 in the 2012-2018 SPLOST Budget. 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 submit a proposal to the Georgia Forestry Commission for driveway and parking area construction and paving and once the state approves the proposal and allocates the funds to proceed with the work. 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.

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to ratify the bid award to Cook Concrete Construction to form and pour the sidewalk on South Pinetree Boulevard for

$1.05 p/sf, $12,600 +/- with funding in the approved 2012 – 2018 SPLOST budget. 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 ratify the purchase of three (3) DOT transit surplus buses for $5,500 each; 1 for the Prison and 2 for Public Works. 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 Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the Public Property Committee's recommendation to approve the final plans for the Jail/Justice Center Expansion Project as approved by Sheriff Carlton Powell, Judge Andy Seery and Chief Troy Rich. 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 Grady reported that the Public Property Committee has reviewed the conceptual plans for the new 911 Center. Leon Lynn was instructed to work with the consultant who will be doing the needs assessment. The deadline to receive the proposals is 5:00 p.m. on July 11. The proposals will be reviewed by the User Board and their recommendation will be considered by the board.

Commissioner Ansley set a Solid Waste Committee at 8:30 a.m. on July 23.

Commissioner Baker stated that he will set a Finance Committee to discuss the 2014 millage rates.

Commissioner Mays congratulated Tim Coram, EMS Co-Director, for his appointment to the All Hazards Council.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Ansley 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