Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
September 23, 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 Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk and Toyna Brooks, Board Secretary. Media present was Chris Hurst and Patti Dozier with Times Enterprise.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Vice-Chairman Hickey 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 September 9, 2014 board meeting. 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 ratify the 9/15, 2014 purchase of 7,500 gallons of diesel fuel from Petroleum Products at $2.7955 per gallon. 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 declared a public hearing for a rezoning request, Application 14-9-1, property located at 2135 Smith Avenue (1.49) acres, more or less) Map 46H, parcel 127 from Ag (agricultural) to CG (Commercial General) so as to allow for a commercial business, Williams Electric Service & Signs.

Chairman Gross recognized Bart Williams, owner of Williams Electric, representing the land owners Janice Strickland and James Williams. Mr. Williams explained to the board that his intent is to relocate his sign business to the location at a future date. He also explained that he has talked to board members at the church that is adjacent to the property. They had expressed concerns of the storage of signs and material on the property. Mr. Williams stated that he told them that signs are temporarily stored until installed and they would have some materials. The rear of the property would be fenced.

Chairman Gross asked if there was anyone in favor or opposed to the rezoning application. Being none, declared the public hearing closed.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve Application 14-9-1 to rezone the property located at 2135 Smith Avenue (1.49) acres, more or less) Map 46H, parcel 127 from Ag (agricultural) to CG (Commercial General) so as to allow for a commercial business, Williams Electric Service & Signs. 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 appoint Commissioner Phillip Brown as Thomas County's voting delegate at the Legislative Conference Business on October 8 to October 10, 2014 in Athens, GA. 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 opened the meeting to citizens.

Chairman Gross recognized Candee Henderson. Ms. Henderson told the board that she has lived in Thomas County since 1984. Ms. Henderson spoke concerning the Climate March that is bringing national attention to the sustainability of the climate and alternate energy sources. She suggested changing from diesel fuel to propane for the county equipment.

Mr. Stephenson, County Manager, told the board that a budget work session is set for Wednesday, September 30, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. The first part of the session will consist of presentations by the six (6) insurance companies that have responded to the county's request for proposals for TPA Health Insurance. A decision from the board is scheduled for October 7, 2014. He also told the board that copies of the proposals were available for them in the Annex conference room.

Mr. Warren, County Attorney, reported that Tim Sanders is revising the contract for the Business Park road construction contract. He also reported that the case concerning the Colvin junk yards will be heard by Judge Seery at 10:00 a.m. on October 13.

Mr. Warren asked the board to approve the follow order of condemnation in order to proceed with Project Number 70 - Egg & Butter Road, road construction project.

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the order of condemnation of parcel numbers 38, 40, 42, 44, and 47 Project No. 70 – Eggs & Butter 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.

ORDER
of the
THOMAS COUNTY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Thomas County Commission has laid out and determined to construct a certain County highway as part of the County Highway System of Thomas County, Georgia, known and designated as Project Number 70 - Egg & Butter Road and being more fully shown on a map and drawing on file in the Office of the County Commission of Thomas County; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain the projected schedule of road construction of Thomas County, it is necessary that the right of way, and other rights, if any, for the construction of said project be acquired without delay; and

WHEREAS, the parcel(s) of right of way and other rights as herein described and as listed below are essential for the construction of said project.

> Parcel: Nos. 38, 40, 42, 44 and 47 of Project No. 70 - Egg & Butter Road, all of which are more particularly described in the plats attached hereto and marked as Plats "A" through "E"

NOW, THEREFORE, it is found by the Thomas County Commission that the circumstances are such that it is necessary that the right of way, easements and access rights, if any, as described in annexes to this order be acquired by condemnation as provided in the provisions of the O.C.G.A. §32-3-4 through §32-3-19; and

IT IS ORDERED that the THOMAS COUNTY Attorney proceed to acquire the title, estate or interest in the lands hereinafter described in annexes to this order by condemnation under the provisions of said code, and the County Attorney of Thomas County, Georgia is authorized and directed to file condemnation proceedings, including a Declaration of Taking, to acquire said title, estate or interest in said land and to deposit in the Court the sum estimated as just compensation, all in accordance with the provisions of said Code.

Done at the office of the Thomas County Commission, Thomas County, Georgia, this the 23 day of September, 2014.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to appoint Raleigh Rollins to represent Thomas County in the civil case brought to the county by Christopher and Bethany Warren concerning Heather Way Lane. 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.

The following committee schedule was announced:

Road-September 24 at 8:30, Public Property-October 2 at 8:30 followed by Emergency Services and Purchasing-October 7 at 8:00.

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

Moses L. Gross

Moses L. Gross, Chairman

M. Twink Monahan

M. Twink Monahan, Clerk