Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
September 30, 2014

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a special work session 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 (Absent)	J. Elaine Mays, Dist. 8

Staff present was Michael Stephenson, County Manager, Twink Monahan, County Clerk, and Laura Nichols, Finance Manager. Also present was the rating team for the insurance proposals: Jessica Winkelmann, Insurance/Benefits Clerk and Thelma Maxwell, Purchasing Agent.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

J. Elaine Mays gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Gross stated that the purpose of the first portion meeting was to hear presentations from those companies and agencies who submitted Third Party Administration proposals for the county health benefit program. These presentations were mandatory.

Mr. Stephenson asked that in an effort of fairness that the companies present excuse themselves from the room while each company gives their presentations and all those present were in agreement.

RFP Health Insurance Program

8:35	Big Oak Advisors/United Health Care
8:55	Blue Cross / Blue Shield
9:15	Group Resources
9:35	Integra
9:55	Nova Healthcare (did not attend)
10:15	Taylor Benefit Resources

After the presentations, Mr. Stephenson reiterated that the board has made several cost saving changes to the benefit plan and one option that has not been addressed is

not having any spousal coverage. If considered, allow the 12 month transitional period as they have done for the other changes.

The board recessed for lunch at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened at 12:45 p.m. in Room 215, Courthouse Annex.

The board discussed the presentations and the information gained by having each company explain the county's questions. Commissioner Mays stated that Big Oak Advisors and Taylor Benefit Resources gave very good presentations. There were areas of Big Oak Advisors and Integra that were clarified because of the presentations. Commissioner NeSmith said that he would like to see the board go through the process every three (3) years.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to0 renew the contract with Taylor Benefit Resources, based on all the information received, for three (3) years, to advise all the companies of the board's intention and ratifying the action at the October 14, 2014 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Mr. Stephenson explained that in the packet was a memo outlining the departments' requests along with some funding information which he reviewed in detail. He pointed out that he needs directions for funding the 911 Center. The estimated cost is 1.6 million for the 6,400 square foot building.

He also explained that the notebook that is distributed contains a detail of all the department requests.

2015 Budget - Capital & Major Requests & Recommendations

Department	Item	Requested
Tax Assessor	vehicle (replacing 96 Lumina)	28,000
Building Maintenance	lumber shed	35,000
	3/4 Ton Truck	35,000
Clerk of Court	server	6,000
Magistrate	furniture	15,000
Sheriff	12 patrol cars	445,998
	1 truck	28,694
	Equipment	24,680
Drug Squad	1 truck Replacement	36,000
	furniture	6,300
Jail	cell padding	19,500
Corrections	PREA camera system	63,000
	yard tractor & trailer	16,400

	2 rotary mowers	9,000
	soil mixer	14,000
	rubber tire excavator	200,000
Sanitation	Site Improvements	205,000
	Sanitation truck on order	150,000
Fleet Maintenance	service truck (replacement)	37,000
Building Inspections	Pickup truck (replacement)	?0
Code Enforcement	Pickup truck (replacement)	?0
911	Software/phone system	394,544
	furniture	15,000
EMS	Ambulance	130,000
	Command vehicle	29,000
	Furniture (replacement)	6,000
	equipment (see request)	13,860
Emergency Services	storm shutters	7,200
Emerg. Resp /Rescue	Sub-station (new)	40,000
Fire District 1 & 2	Squad truck (replacement)	40,000
Fire District 3	Crew truck (replacement)	35,000

The board also discussed the possibility of pay increases for the employees. Chairman Gross stated the increases last year were given across the board to help attract and keep employees. It was discussed that if raises were to be given this year it would not be across the board but perhaps based on longevity. Staff was directed to get estimates for the total for salary increases. There was no action taken.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to adjourn at 2:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross 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