Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
October 28, 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, Twink Monahan, County Clerk and Toyna Allen-Brooks Secretary. Media present were Patti Dozier, Times-Enterprise and Chris Hurst with WPAX Radio.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Ansley 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 October 14, 2014 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey, and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown, and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross declared a public hearing to receive public comments concerning zoning application #14-10-1, James S. Brown, property owner, requests a zoning change for property located on Smith Road (6 acres, more or less) Map 74 Parcel 54, from I (Industrial) to Ag (Agricultural) to allow for one (1) residential homesite. Chairman Gross recognized Donna Holbert, Assistant Zoning Director. Ms. Holbert stated that the Planning and Land Use Board and staff has recommended the zoning change and that there was no opposition at their 10/20/2014 public hearing.

Commissioner Hickey stated that the land has not been used as I (Industrial) for many years.

Chairman Gross asked if there was anyone present in favor of the request to rezone. Chairman Gross recognized James Brown, the landowner. Mr. Brown stated that the land zoned as Industrial is of no use to him and would like to see the board approve the application.

Chairman Gross asked if there was anyone present in opposition. Being none, Chairman Gross closed the public hearing.

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve zoning application #14-10-1, James S. Brown, changing the zoning from Industrial to Ag to allow for one residential homesite. 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.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the purchase of fuel on 10/24/2014; Petroleum Products for diesel at $2.5411 per gallon and gas from Plantation Petroleum at $2.2707 per gallon. 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 recognize Commissioner Brown who made a motion to declare surplus the obsolete vehicle and equipment parts list submitted as recommended by the county auditor. 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 Al Bryan from Meigs. Mr. Bryan told the board that the Citizens' Academy program is very worthwhile and informative and thanked the board for offering it to the citizens. Mr. Bryan also distributed to the board information about the AARP Foundation called Tax-Aide; one pamphlet explaining how to become a volunteer and another explaining the services provided at no charge. He explained that the service is free and will be offered at the library beginning February 2015.

Mr. Stephenson distributed a list of all the major capital requested and his recommendations. He asked the board to review the requests. He also reported that the employee survey has been completed and that the EMS has been working with the hospital getting updated on the Ebola protocols.

Committee:

Personnel Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on 11/3
Public Property Meeting at 8:30 a.m. on 11/6
No Purchasing meeting in November
The Emergency Services Committee scheduled for 10/30 was cancelled

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss land acquisition at 6:25 p.m. 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 return to open session at 6:27 p.m. reporting that there is no action to be taken. 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 Vice-Chairman Hickey 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, County Clerk