

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
January 13, 2015

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, Toyona Brooks, Board Secretary, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise and Chris Hurst, WPAX.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Chairman Gross recognized Reverend Scott who gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the minutes of the 12/9/2014 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 turned the meeting over to Bruce Warren, County Attorney, to serve as temporary Chairman for the purpose of electing the Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Bruce Warren opened the floor for nominations for chairman.

Bruce Warren recognized Commissioner Brown who nominated Commissioner Gross for Chairman of the 2015 Board. Mr. Warren asked for any other nominations. Commissioner Mays made a motion to close the nominations for Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Mr. Warren confirmed Commissioner Gross' reappointment as Chairman for 2015 by acclamation.

Bruce Warren opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Commissioner NeSmith nominated Commissioner Hickey for Vice-Chairman of the 2015 Board. Mr. Warren asked for any other nominations. Commissioner Grady who made a motion to close the nominations for Vice-Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Mr. Warren confirmed Commissioner Hickey's reappointment as Vice-Chairman for 2015, by acclamation.

Mr. Warren turned the meeting over to Chairman Gross.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioners Mays who made a motion to reappoint R. Bruce Warren as county attorney. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hickey. Motion carried unanimously;

Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey, and Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Gross requested Commissioner Hickey's assistant in awarding the Years of Service Awards to the Thomas County employees who have reached certain notable years.

5 Years

Elijah Antes	Sheriff's Office
Brad A. Barrett	EMS
Kerry Brinson	Public Works
Rodney Brinson	Public Works
Walter L. Brown	Public Works
Diana Crosby	EMS
Craig M. Dukes, Jr.	Fire Department
Reggie Frasu	EMS
Jessica L. Thompson	EMS
Thelma J. Maxwell	Commissioners Office
Anthony R. McCoy	EMS
Daniel Warren	EMS
Tanisha Williams	Transit
Douglas Winter	Fire Department
Nolan Yarbrough	Fire Department

10 Years

Kenneth G. Atkinson	Public Works
Kenneth Bradley	Sheriff's Office
Chavetta L. Carter	E-911
Latasha L. Graham	Jail
Donna M. Holbert	Building Inspections
Robbie L. Hopkins	EMS
Tracy A. Long	Sheriff's Office

15 Years

Patricia D. Collins	Tax Assessors
Pamela Davis	Jail
Florence M. Drawdy	Jail
Mike Fielding	Sheriff's Office
James E. Randall	Equipment Shop
Pamela K. Scott	Jail
Leo Smart	Fire Department
Randa D. Wharton	Clerk of Court

20 Years

George "Granvil" Jones	E-911
Willie Osborn	Sheriff's Office
Ann Powell	E-911

25 Years

Victoria "Vicki" Brents	Sheriff's Office
Tim Coram	EMS
Angela H. Jones	Public Works
Seneca Springle	Public Works
Virginia L. Williams	Jail

30 Years

Hozell Hester	Sanitation
---------------	------------

Commissioner NeSmith told the employees any organization would be proud to have employees who have made a career here at Thomas County. You make it work for the county. You have our thanks and we recognize that you make a conscience effort to perform professionally, thoughtfully and economically.

Chairman Gross recognized Lyndall Knight. On behalf of the local veterans he presented Sheriff R. Carlton Powell with the annual Veterans' Booster Award. Sheriff Powell stated that he was a supporter of the veterans and thankful for their service. He also stated that he is a supporter of the county workers.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the resolution to transmit the draft Capital Improvements Element, to the Regional Commission, amending the Capital Improvements Element adopted October 4, 2007 which will be incorporated into and update the Thomas County Comprehensive Plan. 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.

Georgia, Thomas County

Transmittal Resolution Capital Improvements Element Thomas County, Georgia

WHEREAS, Thomas County has prepared a draft Capital Improvements Element, amending its Capital Improvements Element adopted October 4, 2007, which will be incorporated into and update the *Thomas County Comprehensive Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the draft amended Capital Improvements Element was prepared in accordance with the "Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements" and the "Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning" adopted by the Board of Community Affairs pursuant to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989; and,

WHEREAS, a duly advertised Public Hearing was held on December 9, 2014, at 9:00 A.M. in the Thomas County Historic Courthouse in accordance with Section (10)(a)1 of Chapter 110-12-2-.04 of the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County does hereby submit the draft amended Capital Improvements Element to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission for Regional and State review, as per the requirements of the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements.

Adopted this 13th day of January, 2015.

After reviewing and discussing the Inmate Medical Contract with Warden Geer and Sheriff Powell the board requested clarification of the rates.

Chairman Gross recognize Commissioner Brown who made a motion to postpone action on the Transform Health contract until the rates are determined for the inmate medical service at the prison. 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 Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel from Plantation Petroleum on 1/2/15 for \$1.7559 per gallon. 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 appoint members to the Board of Adjustments and Appeals for 4-year with the new terms expiring 1/31/18; Architect-Leon Lynn, Plumbing-Jim Hay, Pipe Fitter-Roy Setliff, and Construction Industry-Byron Glover. 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 Mays who made a motion to reappoint Gerald Bloodworth to the Animal Control Board for a 4-year term which will expire on 12/31/18. 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 recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the Drug Education Fund distribution for 2013 as listed. 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.

**Drug Education Fund
2013 Annual Distribution**

Balance of 1-1-13		\$40,826.66
2013 Revenues		<u>\$30,396.31</u>
Total 2013 funds available		\$71,222.97
Less October 2013 distribution		<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>
Funds available now for distribution		\$41,222.97
Recommended now for distribution		<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>
<i>Thomas County Schools FTE</i>	5,621 (66.6%)	
Sheriff's Office DARE Distribution		\$ 19,980.00
<i>Thomasville City Schools FTE</i>	2,821 (33.4%)	
TPD DARE Distribution		\$ 10,020.00

Note: Total Thomas County Sheriff Office expenses are \$40,498.95,
Total Thomasville Police Department expenses are \$58,664.00

Chairman Gross opened the meeting to citizens not listed on the agenda who which to address the board.

Al Bryan, Meigs, was recognized. Mr. Bryan reported that on February 4 AARP will have volunteers at the Library to file tax returns those needing assistance. These services are free of charge. Mr. Bryan also reported that he had forwarded to the board members a survey from the Regional Commission about buying local agricultural products. He encouraged the board members to complete the survey.

Sheriff Powell was recognized. Sheriff Powell reported that in 2014 the Sheriff's Office calculated the costs of involuntary transports for the mentally impaired. There were a total of 997 transports, 50,020 miles driven at a total cost, including 10,538.72 man-hours of \$155,878.76. Sheriff Powell said that he wanted the board to be aware of the added expense the department is incurring due to the closure of Southwestern State Hospital.

Commissioner Mays asked that the report be forwarded to our legislators. Commissioner NeSmith asked that a letter be drafted to the legislators for all board members to sign concerning this growing concern.

Mr. Stephenson asked the board to set a date for the semiannual planning session. The board set the planning session for February 11, beginning at 9:00 a.m. until about 3:00 p.m. in the conference room in the commissioners' office.

Commissioner Grady reminded everyone about the Public Property Committee meeting Thursday, February 15 at 8:30 a.m. in the conference room.

Commissioner NeSmith told the board the first Purchasing Committee meeting is set for February 3. For the convenience of all commissioners the regular meeting time has been changed to 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Warren updated the board on the Henry Colvin case. All paperwork has been received by the Clerk of Superior Court and the process is being scheduled.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss future acquisition of real estate as provide by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2). 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.

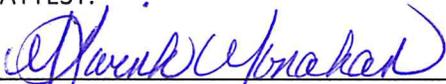
Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter into open session reporting no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

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



Moses L. Gross, Chairman

ATTEST:



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk