

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

The 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, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times-Enterprise.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Commissioner NeSmith gave in 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 22, 2015 board meeting. 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 Chief Jones, Thomas County Fire Department/EMA. Chief Jones gave a history of the ISO for Fire District 3 and the Central Fire District. He explained that the new ratings just received have lower to a Countywide Class of 4/4x and Central Fire District to a Class 3/3Y. This is going to give the homeowners and commercial business owners a lower premium for the insurance. The board commended Chief Jones and the Thomas County Fire Department for a great job in getting the ISO rates reduced.

Chairman Gross ask Commissioner Mays to read an accommodation for Operations Chief Rob Duthoy, Lieutenant James Nolan and Firefighter/EMTs Robert Hunsberger and Jake Parnell for their participation in the mutual aid service to the Bainbridge fuel tank fire.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the diesel fuel purchase on 10/9/2015 from Petroleum Products for \$1.5995 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. 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 Committee's recommendation to contract with Cook Construction to repair the Northside Fire Station driveway for \$10,032. 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 approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to award the Thomas County Benefit Plan renewal contract for the re-

insurance, stop-loss, to Transamerica Life/North Wind, LLC 2015/2016 coverage. 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 Jeff Burton. Mr. Burton stated that he wanted to submit a petition, 7 pages, 150 signatures, of citizens who oppose the shooting range on Woodruff Farm Road. Mr. Burton stated his concerns for property values, the 129 houses and 2 churches in the area. Commissioner Grady stated that he will take all concerns under consideration. Chairman Hickey stated that all comments will be heard at the October 26 Public Hearing.

Lynette Joy Hitt was recognized and asked if background checks would be run on all members. Mr. Stephenson stated that all detail will be worked out by the 26th Public Hearing.

Mr. Stephenson recognized all commissioners noting Commissioners Mays and Gross were on the board when the county assumed the Fire and EMS, for purchasing ambulances and fire vehicles showing the board's support of the departments by giving them the tools needed to perform their duties. He stated that he appreciates the staff and Chief for their outstanding job.

Commissioner Mays said that she thanks Mr. Stephenson for his part in the takeover of the Emergency Services Agency and the planning that went into it.

Committee meetings were announced.

Mr. Stephenson requested annual leave from 11/2 to 11/14/2015.

Staff was instructed to reschedule the City/County Workshop on November 4 due to Mr. Stephenson's absence.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Mays 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