

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
December 8, 2015

The 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse, Commission Chambers, with the following board members present:

Moses Gross, Chairman, Dist. 2
Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1
Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Phillip V. Brown, Dist. 7

Kenneth E. Hickey, Vice-Chairman, Dist. 3
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6
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 and Chris Hurst, WPAX.

Chairman Gross called the meeting to order.

Michael Stephenson gave in invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 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 announced that the attorney for the landowner who requested Public Hearing for Winter Past Road closing consideration asked that it be removed from the agenda.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to advertise and schedule the Public Hearings for Winter Past and Cardinal Ridge Roads for January 26, 2016 meeting at 6:00 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 Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2016/2017 Operating Application for Georgia DOT Transit Application. 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 Mays who made a motion to approve the 2nd Amendment to the Regional Commission Human Resources Transit Contract for 2015/2016. 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 Baker who made a motion to approve the 2016 Budget for all funds as presented. 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.

**Thomas County
2016 Budget Resolution
All Funds**

Whereas, the Thomas County Board of Commissioners is required by Georgia law to approve balanced budgets for all funds; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on Monday, November 16, 2015, as required by Georgia law to receive public comment on the proposed budget; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners has carefully considered the interests of the citizens of Thomas County, the requirements of public services provided thereunto and the extent of financial resources available to county government.

Now therefore be it resolved that the following budgets are adopted and approved effective on January 1, 2016:

General Fund			
	Revenues	\$	24,059,104
	Expenses	\$	24,059,104
Drug Education Fund			
	Revenues	\$	51,000
	Expenses	\$	51,000
Sheriff's Drug Forfeiture Fund			
	Revenues	\$	60,000
	Expenses	\$	60,000
Sheriff's Federal Drug Forfeiture Fund			
	Revenues	\$	30,000
	Expenses	\$	30,000
Enhanced 911 Fund			
	Revenues	\$	1,429,764
	Expenses	\$	1,429,764
Central Fire District Fund			
	Revenues	\$	1,156,438
	Expenses	\$	1,156,438
Thomas County Fire Rescue Fund			
	Revenues	\$	1,338,000
	Expenses	\$	1,338,000
Emergency Services Fund			
	Revenues	\$	4,371,300
	Expenses	\$	4,371,300
Commercial Collection Fund			
	Revenues	\$	60,300
	Expenses	\$	60,300
Health Benefits Fund			
	Revenues	\$	4,843,100
	Expenses	\$	4,843,100
Airport Fund			
	Revenues	\$	10,000
	Expenses	\$	10,000
Law Library Fund			
	Revenues	\$	40,000
	Expenses	\$	40,000
County-wide 2012 SPLOST Fund (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	42,000,000
	Expenses	\$	42,000,000
Thomas County 2012 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	22,000,000
	Expenses	\$	22,000,000

Thomas County 2006 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)		
Revenues	\$	28,110,976
Expenses	\$	28,110,976
Thomas County Area Transit		
Revenues	\$	1,096,366
Expenses	\$	1,096,366
Impact Fees Fund		
Revenues	\$	221,300
Expenses	\$	221,300
Hotel/Motel Tax Fund		
Revenues	\$	120,900
Expenses	\$	120,900
Capital Improvement Fund (Project Length)		
Revenues	\$	4,696,792
Expenses	\$	4,696,792

Approved this the eighth day of December 2015

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Baker who made a motion to approve the 2015 Budget Amendment 15-12-1 as recommended by the Finance Committee. 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.

**2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT 15-12-1
GENERAL FUND (100)
DECEMBER 8, 2015**

Account	Description	Original 2015 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
100-33-4011	TLM-Metcalf GDOT Grant	0	13,925	13,925
100-39-9060	Carryover of Funds*	0	1,980,531	1,980,531
	Total			1,994,456
Net Increase to Revenues				\$1,994,456

Expenses				
100-2150-51-1100	Salaries-Superior Court	47,200	80,000	32,800
100-2150-51-2200	FICA-Superior Court	4,100	5,000	900
100-2150-52-1300	Technical-Superior Court	3,000	7,100	4,100
100-4100-53-1177	Bridge Maint Supplies-PW	90,000	36,200	-53,800
100-4100-54-2500	Equipment-PW	9,000	21,000	12,000
100-5400-57-2135	Indigent Burials	1,000	3,000	2,000
100-5500-52-1313	TLM-Metcalf GDOT Grant	0	13,925	13,925
100-5500-54-2204	CDBG14-Infrastructure	18,221	20,221	2,000
100-9010-61-1004	Transfer Out-Capital Imp Fund*	0	1,980,531	1,980,531
	Total			1,994,456

Net Increase to Expenses **\$1,994,456**

*Transferred out \$300,000 to CIF and 2014 FLPA Grant in the amount of \$499,228

*Finance Committee approved \$1,000,000 to be transferred to CIF and Transfer balance

of GF Capital Imp to CIF \$181,302.43

2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT 15-12-1

DRUG EDUCATION FUND (230)
DECEMBER 8, 2015

Account	Description	Original 2015 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
230-35-1905	Drug Condemnations	50,000	70,000	20,000
	Total			20,000
Net Increase to Revenues				<u>\$20,000</u>
Expenses				
230-3380-52-3701	DARE Program	51,000	71,000	20,000
	Total			20,000
Net Increase to Expenses				<u>\$20,000</u>

2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT 15-12-1
EMERGENCY SERVICES (273)
DECEMBER 8, 2015

Account	Description	Original 2015 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
273-39-9060	Carryover of Funds	0	211,578	211,578
	Total			211,578
Net Increase to Revenues				<u>\$211,578</u>
Expenses				
273-9010-61-1004	Transfer Out-Capital Imp Fund	0	211,578	211,578
	Total			211,578
Net Increase to Expenses				<u>\$211,578</u>

 Transferred out \$100,000 to CIF and 2014 FLPA Grant in the amount of \$111,578

2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT 15-12-1
HOTEL MOTEL FUND (275)
DECEMBER 8, 2015

Account	Description	Original 2015 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
275-31-4100	Hotel/Motel Tax	120,000	153,000	33,000
	Total			33,000
Net Increase to Revenues				<u>\$33,000</u>
Expenses				
275-5500-57-1030	Tourism Authority	49,000	73,000	24,000
275-5500-57-1050	Educational Expense	29,775	38,775	9,000

	Total			33,000

Net Increase to Expenses

\$33,000

**2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT 15-12-1
CAPITAL PROJECTS-2012 (328)
DECEMBER 8, 2015**

Account	Description	Original 2015 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Expenses				
328-4285-54-1405	Hall Rd/319 By-Pass	64,280	54,555	-9,725
328-9010-57-9000	Contingencies	1,459,226	1,468,951	9,725
	Total			0

Net Increase to Expenses

\$0

**2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT 15-12-1
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (350) - PROJECT LENGTH BUDGET
DECEMBER 8, 2015**

Account	Description	Original 2015 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
350-31-1100	Real Property-Current Year	100,000	2,250,000	2,150,000
350-31-1108	ESF Tax-Property Tax	0	500,000	500,000
350-34-1940	Commissions on Tax	0	125,000	125,000
350-34-4140	Recycling-Methane Gas	0	300,000	300,000
350-34-9917	Red Hills Business Park	0	863,370	863,370
350-36-1000	Interest	0	4,000	4,000
350-39-1005	Transfer In-General Fund	0	1,980,531	1,980,531
350-39-1006	Transfer In-Emergency Services	0	211,578	211,578
350-39-2100	Sale of General Fixed Assets	0	251,150	251,150
350-39-2300	Timber Sales	0	3,272	3,272
	Total			6,388,901

Net Increase to Revenues

\$6,388,901

Expenses				
350-1506-54-1213	Prison-Reroof Dorms	0	30,000	30,000
350-1506-54-1300	Building Maintenance Roof	0	10,480	10,480
350-1506-54-1305	Hill Building Renovations	0	700,000	700,000
350-1506-54-1315	911 Center	100,000	1,700,000	1,600,000
350-1506-54-1317	Transit Office Renovation	0	10,000	10,000
350-1506-54-1319	Extension Service Renovation	0	450,000	450,000
350-1506-54-1322	Shop Building	0	15,000	15,000
350-1506-54-1406	Red Hills Business Park	0	863,370	863,370
350-1506-54-1408	Hancock Center Parking Lot	0	145,000	145,000
350-1506-54-2503	E-911-Software & Equipment	0	310,000	310,000
350-9010-61-2005	Rainy Day Account	0	2,255,051	2,255,051
	Total			6,388,901

Net Increase to Expenses

\$6,388,901

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the diesel fuel purchase on 12/2/2015 from Petroleum Products for \$1.3380 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 Commissioner Mays who made a motion to adopt the following as the 2016 scheduled Board meeting dates and the Observed County Holidays. 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.

2016 Observed County Holidays

New Year's Day 2016, Friday, January 1, 2016	Labor Day, Monday, September 5
Martin Luther King's Birthday, Monday, January 18	Thanksgiving Day and the Day After Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25
Memorial Day, Monday, May 30	Christmas Eve and Christmas Friday and Monday, December 23 and 26 (observed)
Independence Day, Monday, July 4	2017 , New Year's Day Monday, January 2, 2017(observed)

<u>Month</u>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>6:00 p.m.</u>
January	12 th	26 th
February	9 th	23 rd
March	8 th	22 nd
April	12 th	26 th
May	10 th	24 th
June	14 th	28 th
July	12 th	26 th
August	9 th	23 rd
September	13 th	27 th
October	11 th	25 th
November	8 th	22 nd
December	13 th (Only 1 meeting)	

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the following resolution for the Hotel/Motel Excise Tax increasing to 8% to fund an events center, revise the Destination Thomasville Tourism Authority contract and forward to the Thomas County legislators to present in the 2016 Georgia Legislation. 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.

RESOLUTION AMENDING HOTEUMOTEL TAX ORDINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County that the Hotel/Motel Excise Tax Ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

Section 86-132 and 133 are hereby amended by striking the word "five" and substituting therefor the word "eight" so that the rate is changed to 8%.

Section 86-134 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. No such tax as provided in this code section shall be levied upon the fees or charges for any taxable unit furnished for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive days or for use as meeting rooms.
2. Charges made for any rooms, lodgings, or accommodations provided to any persons who certify that they are staying in such rooms, lodging or accommodation as a result of the destruction of their home or residence by fire or other casualty.
3. Any rooms, lodgings, or accommodations furnished for a period of one or more days for use by Georgia state or local governmental officials or employees while traveling on official business. Notwithstanding the availability of any other means of identifying the person as a state or local governmental official or employee, whenever a person pays for any rooms, lodgings, or accommodations with a state or local government credit or debit card, such rooms, lodgings or accommodations shall be deemed to have been furnished for use by a Georgia state or local governmental official or employee traveling on official business for purposes of the exemption provided by this paragraph. For purposes of the exemption provided under this paragraph, a local government official or employee shall include officials or employees of counties, municipalities, consolidated governments, or county or independent school districts.
4. Charges made for continuous use of any rooms, lodgings or accommodations after the first 30 days of continual occupancy.

Section 86-139 is hereby amended by deleting O.C.G.A. §48-13-51(a)5.3 and substituting O.C.G.A. §48-13-5(b)(1).

A new section is designated as 86-140 is hereby added which shall read as follows:

Section 86-140. Allocation of the Tax. The funds collected pursuant to the tax shall be allocated as follows:

1. 37.5% returned by the County (3% levy)
2. 25% to Destination Thomasville Tourism Authority for promotion of tourism conventions (2% levy)
3. 7.5% to Destination Thomasville Tourism Authority for the purpose of developing an events center at 207 S. Dawson Street in Thomasville (3% levy)

Effective Date: The first day of the second month following finalization of the local act referred to in O.C.G.A. §48-13-51(b)(4).

ADOPTED this the 8th day of December, 2015.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to reappoint the following members to the Planning and Land Use Commission for a 4-year term to expire 12/31/2019; Mark Manley, Position 2, Lamar Miller, Position 4, and David McGill, Jr., Position 5, and to appoint Kay Davis to Position 7, her first appointment, expiring 12/31/19. 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 Brown who made a motion to reappoint Eddie Brown to the Board of Tax Assessors with the new 3 year term expiring 12/31/2018. 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 Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to reappoint Ross Jones to his second full 3-year term to the Board of Elections and Registration with the term expiring 12/31/2018. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried by a 6 to 2 vote; Vice-Chairman Hickey and

Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, and Mays voting aye. Chairman Gross and Commissioner Brown voting nay.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to appoint Matt Bennett to a 2-year term on the Thomasville Thomas County Recreation Advisory Board with the term expiring 12/31/2017. 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 recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to reappoint Commissioner Mays, Donnie Baggett and Al Bryan to a one year appointment to the Regional Commission. 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 approve the following 6 recommendations from the 12/1/2015 Purchasing Committee. 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.

1. Inmate Medical Service Provider
Award to Southern Correctional Medicine for \$8,300.00 monthly, \$99,600.00 annual with a \$.95 per diem greater than 200 for 2016, budget of \$200,000.00 with an option to renew for an additional 2 years and notify the current provider of non-renewal.
2. Concrete Drainage Pipe – Stock
Award to Bates Precast Concrete per line item to be ordered as needed.
3. Aggregate Rock – Stock
Award to A Mining Group for an estimated cost of \$84,725.00, prices good 12/8/15 – 6/30/2016.
4. Fencing – Hansell Collection Site
Award to White’s Fence Company for an estimated cost of \$8,532.68.
5. Tools - Annual
Award to Tom Horne Supply and Whitehead Hardware low bid per line item, to be ordered as needed.
6. Uniforms – Public Works / Building Maintenance
Award to Aramark Uniform, prices good for 2016 with an option to renew for an additional year if agreeable by both parties.

Chairman Gross recognized Commissioner Baker who made a motion to approve the four recommendations from the 12/1/2015 Finance Committee. 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.

1. Approve EMS Write Offs for 2011, \$117,698.03
2. Approve Budget Amendment 15-12-1
3. Approve 105% funding factor for Thomas County Defined Benefit Plan
4. Approve transfers from General Fund accounts to the Capital Improvements Fund; \$1,000,000 and \$181,302.43. Total \$1,181,302.43 to be included in Budget Amendment 15-12-1

Chairman Gross recognized Vice-Chairman Hickey who made a motion to approve the 11/12/2015 Road Committee recommendation to purchase wheel locks for the asphalt spreader for \$12,000 from Yancey Brothers and charge to the equipment account. 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 Grady who made a motion to approve the 2016 Capital Improvement Fund Projects: Relocation of the Extension Service, \$450,000; Remodel the Hill Building, \$700,000; Pave the Hancock Center Parking Lot, \$145,000. 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 Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Gross, Vice-Chairman Hickey and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Brown and Mays voting aye.

Commissioner NeSmith stated that he appreciates all the county employees for their hard work and stewardship which supports the financial condition of the county.

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



M. Twink Monahan, Clerk