

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
February 9, 2016

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:

Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman, Dist. 3	Phillip V. Brown, Vice-Chair, Dist. 7
Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1	Moses Gross, Dist. 2
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	J. Elaine Mays, Dist. 8

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, Toyona Brooks, Board Secretary, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Patti Dozer and Chris Hurst were present representing the media.

Chairman Hickey called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown to give the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the 1/26/16 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to declare a public hearing to obtain citizens' comments concerning the portion of Cardinal Ridge road abandonment. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey called for comments. There were no public comments. Bruce Warren explained that the county will consider to abandon by survey since there are right of way issues.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to abandon a portion of Cardinal Ridge Road at the entrance of Brookwood School contingent upon receipt of a new survey. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Ed Williams the Executive Director of the Thomasville-Thomas County Humane Society. Mr. Williams introduced Chandler Giddes the new Animal Control Manager. Mr. Giddes told the board that he was born and raised in Thomas County and gave a brief background of his experience, Clanton Veterinary and law enforcement. Commissioner Mays said that he attended the Fox Croft Community Improvement Day.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to appoint Jeanie Crittenden to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission as the additional member, an annual appointment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2015 Distribution of the Drug Education Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

### Drug Education Fund 2015 Annual Distribution

Balance of 1-1-15		\$ 90,745.67
<u>2015 Revenues</u>		<u>+ \$43,630.11</u>
Total 2015 funds available		\$ 134,375.78
Less January 13, 2015/2013 Distribution	-	\$ 30,000.00
<u>Less January 28, 2015/2014 Distribution</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 40,000.00</u>
<b>Funds available now for distribution</b>		<b>\$64,375.78</b>
<b><u>Recommended now for distribution</u></b>		<b><u>\$40,000.00</u></b>
<i>Thomas County Schools FTE</i>		<i>5,777 (66.0%)</i>
Sheriff's Office DARE Distribution		<b>\$ 26,400.00</b>
<i>Thomasville City Schools FTE</i>		<i>2,926 (34.0%)</i>
TPD DARE Distribution		<b>\$ 13,600.00</b>
Total TCSO expenses are \$47,982.83		
Total TPD expenses are \$58,664.00		

Chairman Hickey opened the meeting to citizens wishing to address the board. There were none.

Mr. Stephenson reported the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission is offering to do the Comprehensive Plan and Service Delivery Strategy. The process will start in 2016 and end by June 2018. There is no fee involved unless we have additional planning elements. The current plan will expire 6/30/2018.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion for Southwest Georgia Regional to develop Thomas County's Comprehensive Plan and Service Delivery Strategy. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Mr. Stephenson explained the 3-year cost analysis of the 2013 LOST Resolution for Animal Control. The funds are for the operation and maintenance for animal control. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year collecting the sales tax of which 4.50% is the portion for animal control by resolution. At the end of 2015 there is a net fund balance of \$38,890.39.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the following recap of the Animal Control Funds and to spend by approval of the Board; to proceed with the bid process to purchase a new animal control 4-wheel drive pickup truck and assign one from the county carpool when available. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

2013 LOST Resolution for Animal Control			
2013 LOST Received by all Entities			6,822,879.88
2012 Sales Tax Resolution-Animal Control			4.50%
TOTAL			307,029.59
Deductions			
2013 Expenses-Humane Society			-238,500.00
*2013 Expenses-Animal Control			-95,907.99
		Annual Deficit	-27,378.40
*Bannister Court Case - 22,100.00			
2014 LOST Received by all Entities			6,285,497.32
2012 Sales Tax Resolution-Animal Control			4.50%
TOTAL			282,847.38
Deductions			
2014 Expenses-Humane Society			-222,110.89
2014 Expenses-Animal Control			-55,196.50
		Annual Surplus	5,539.99
2015 LOST Received by all Entities			7,064,152.53
2012 Sales Tax Resolution-Animal Control			4.50%
TOTAL			317,886.86
Deductions			
2015 Expenses-Humane Society			-227,289.11
2015 Expenses-Animal Control			-29,868.96

		Annual Surplus	60,728.79
<b>Net Fund Balance to Date</b>		2-Feb-16	<b>38,890.39</b>

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation to proceed with the bid process to stripe 45.14 miles of road at an estimated \$90,280. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to award the right of way mowing contract to Joiner Construction at \$119.19 per mile, estimated at \$171,748.02 per year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to award the 2016 asphalt bid to both responding vendors, Scruggs Company and H & H Construction Company, as low bid per item, based on availability and location of jobsite using the same method as the State of Georgia based on the fuel cost index. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to award the metal pipe bid for Lillie Lane to the low bidder Southeast Culvert for \$8,518.60. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to purchase 3 rebuilt extrication pumps with full warranty from Rescue Systems for \$5,000 each totaling \$15,000, keeping the old pumps as backup or parts.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to ratify the 2/4/2017 of diesel from Petroleum Products at \$1.1532 per gallon and gas from Plantation Petroleum at \$1.1089 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Bruce Warren asked for an Executive Session for consultation with legal counsel; O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2-(1).

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter into executive session at 9:35 a.m. to consult with the county attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to re-enter into open session at 9:50 a.m. reporting there is no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

  
Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk