

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
July 26, 2016

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:

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 (absent)	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	J. Elaine Mays, Dist. 8

Staff present was Bruce Warren, County Attorney, Michael Stephenson, County Manager, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times-Enterprise. Chairman Hickey called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady to give the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2016 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Geary Holland of Janes Lane. Mr. Holland spoke about his and his neighbors' opposition to The Scruggs Company clearing the property behind Janes Lane and removing dirt. Mr. Holland also presented the board with pictures of the clearing and the distance from their property lines. Bruce Warren stated that at this time there are no regulation in place to do anything about this type of activity. The property is currently zoned AG and clearing is allowed.

Mr. Holland stated that he is setting the stage for when something does happen.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to adopt a resolution approving the Zero Tolerance Drug and Alcohol Policy for the Thomas County Area Transit Service as approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey opened the meeting for public comments.

Chairman Hickey recognized William Woodward, 20 Holly Springs Drive. Mr. Woodward thanked the board for resurfacing the County Line Road. He also stated that he is very appreciative for their fast action in placing No Truck signs on County Line Road at the By-Pass and 19 North. It has helped the truck traffic. He also asked if is possible that additional signs be placed before the turn to avoid the trucks turn onto the road with no place to turn around.

Mr. Stephenson explained the handout for the Special Called Meeting set for 9:00 a.m. Thursday morning. The information provided in a handout has two options for the 2016 property tax levy. At the special

called meeting the decision will be made whether or not to cancel the first meeting of the month. After explaining the options he reminded the board that the millage has to be set before September 1<sup>st</sup>. The second option will consist of advertising restrictions and public hearings. Chairman Hickey asked Alicia Hester, Tax Commissioner, if any decisions had been made concerning the Forest Land Protection Act formula that the Department of Revenue is now using that will result in about \$600,000 loss in revenue next year. She replied that they are still in discussion with the Attorney General's office but she will keep the board informed.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel on 7/13/2016 from Petroleum Products at \$1.5045 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the low bid from Johnson Controls of \$9,990 to repair the Judicial Center Chillers. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

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



Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk