

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
July 25, 2017

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	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, Twink Monahan, County Clerk and Thelma Maxwell, Assistant County Clerk. Media present was Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio and Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise. Others present were Tax Commissioner Alicia Hester, Sheriff Carlton Powell, and PLUS Board member Lamar Miller. Staff present was Tony Bodiford, Public Works Director, Ken Gay, Inspections, Planning and Zoning Director, Tim Coram, Martin Smith and James Mann, EMS Co-Directors, Ken Gay and Donna Holbert, Planning and Zoning Department.

Chairman Hickey opened the meeting, gave the invocation, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes from the 7/11/2017 board meeting and the 7/13/2017 Workshop. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Julie Murphree the Executive Director of Keep Thomas County Beautiful. Ms. Murphree explained to the board that she was appointed to the position effective July 1, 2017. She told the board about upcoming projects and reviewed some 2016 projects. She thanked the board for their time and looks forward to working with them.

Chairman Hickey declared a public hearing for the purpose of receiving input for application #17-7-1. David Poss, property owner, is requesting a variance to Section 3.216 Density, Area, Yard, and Height Requirement of the Land Use Standards Ordinance to allow for the construction of his personal residence on his property located on Wilora's Lane (private land) (9.95 acres, more or less, Map 11, Parcels 40A.) Section 3.216 requires a lot to have the minimum required road frontage to be located on a publicly owned or maintained right-of-way.

Donna Holbert, Zoning Administrator, gave a report that staff did not recommend the variance since of the 6 standards for variances, only 2 were met. The Planning and Land Use Commission (PLUS) approved the application with a 4 in favor and 1 nay vote.

During discussion, Mr. Warren stated that all property would have the same right to apply for a variance if the board approved the request.

Chairman recognized David Poss. Mr. Poss told the board about his background and the purchase of the land. He said he would like to build his personal home on the property. Commissioner NeSmith asked about the upkeep of the lane, since it is not county maintained. Mr. Poss stated that he is currently mowing and keeping up the lane and he acknowledges the county will not be maintaining the road. Mr.

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Poss stated that he was lead to believe he had gone through all the required protocol for the construction of a house. At 6:25 p.m. the chairman closed the public hearing.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the variance request for application #17-7-1 granting a building permit for the construction of a single family residence on Wilora’s Lane. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Kimberly Bollinger of 3018 Woodhaven Road. Ms. Bollinger expressed her concerns about future homes on the small lane.

The board instructed the County attorney to create a text amendment to the Land Use Ordinance that will not allow variances on private lanes.

Chairman Hickey recognized Mary Lawrence Lang, Thomasville Landmarks. Ms. Lang introduced Brian Braun with EMC Engineering. Landmarks and EMC have submitted letters recommending David Taylor Construction, Inc. for the base construction and alternate 1 for the Metcalfe Community Street Scape for a total of \$153,651.10.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Gross who made a motion to approve the award of the contract to David Taylor Construction, Inc., the low bidder for the DOT Project # P.I.#0010609 Metcalfe streetscape project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to set the 2017 tentative millage at the manager’s recommended rate. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

<u>District</u>	<u>Digest</u>	<u>2017 Millage Rates</u> <u>- Recommended</u>	<u>Net Taxes</u>
Incorporated	705,029,782	9.200	6,486,273
	<i>Less insurance premium rollback – 1.4760</i>		
Unincorporated	863,090,386	7.724	6,666,510
Emer. Serv.	1,568,552,210	1.764	2,766,926
Fire District 1	165,317,319	3.149	520,584
Fire District 2	194,147,857	3.123	606,323
Fire District 3	506,614,073	2.353	1,192,062

The final millage rate will be set at the Board meeting August 22, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the 7/18/17, 7,500 gallons gas from Petroleum Products at \$1.7167 per gallon and the 7/24/17, 7,500 gallons diesel fuel from Petroleum Products at \$1.5890 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner NeSmith changed the Road Committee meeting to August 9, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.


Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to approve the Personnel Committee's recommendation for the County to pay the Firefighters' Pension Fund premium for all certified volunteer and regular firefighters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Grady confirmed that August 3 at 8:30 a.m. is the next Public Property meeting.

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


Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:


M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk