

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
June 12, 2018

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:

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

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, Bruce County Attorney Warren, Assistant County Clerk Thelma Maxwell and County Clerk Twink Monahan. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise.

Chairman Grady gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

The following employees were presented certificates for the completion of the Presented Deming Management Method:

Group 24

Robert Thomas  
James Hutchinson  
Henry Flores  
James Vick  
Anthony Pope  
Zachary Taylor  
Christopher Wynn  
Chris Baggett  
Ronald Sellars  
Ricky Conner  
Dan Croley  
Chester Hightower  
Joseph Manning  
David Stocker  
Michelle Colvin  
Jacquelyn Tramel  
Topreka Jones  
Solange Diggs  
Nic Conti  
Isaiah Woodcox  
Josh Noethe  
Michael Parker  
Randy Pendleton  
Tavaris Virgil

Group 25

Jon Allen  
Benjamin Cannon  
Weston Groover  
Evalynisa Thurman  
Robert Bishop  
Dalton Murphy  
Jeffrey Mainwood  
Malcom Denson  
Tim Hobbs  
Matthew Womack  
John Beasley  
Austin Moncrief  
Pat English  
Brandon Welch  
Nicobe Esther  
Kerri Lane  
Jaleishia Walton  
Jackie Curry  
Gladis Silas  
Travis Pollock  
Evan Qualheim  
Felicia Turner  
Brett Wilson  
Waymon Stapp  
Alice Armster

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to the Department of Natural Resources Intergovernmental Agreement dated September 26, 2016 regarding the development and construction of a recreational target shooting range, new total grant amount \$1,271,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

The board members and staff discussed the upcoming conditional use zoning application for a solar facility; Inman Solar with Oil Dri being the property owner. Commissioner NeSmith stated Inman has not abided by the landscaping requirements in the county's ordinance for a solar facility that was approved in 2017. Planning and Zoning Director Ken Gay stated Inman has added 7 gallon plants and contracted with a local company to maintain the buffer. These plants have a 3-year growth rate. Commissioner NeSmith stated he has trouble approving the same company when they are out of compliance with the present solar facility. Why write an ordinance if it is not going to be enforced? Mr. Gay said he and his department are more diligent and will monitor closely.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to appoint George 'Dusty' Kornegay to County Position #7 on the Thomas County Public Library System Board, a 3 year appointment ending June 30, 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

County Manager Michael Stephenson told the board the Department of Community Affairs approved the Comprehensive Plan and the board needs to formally adopt the final plan by resolution.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve a resolution adopting the Joint Comprehensive Plan to maintain its Qualified Local Government Status and submit to the Regional Commission for processing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

County Manager Michael Stephenson stated in order to keep the county's Qualified Local Government status the Service Delivery Strategy must be updated every 10 years. This report defines who is providing a service and the taxing sources. The current plan needs to be correct to reflect current providers and added services. Thomas County and all municipalities need to approve a deadline extension to October 31, 2018 as requested by Steve O'Neal at the Regional Commission.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Form 5, Certification for Extension of Existing Service Delivery Strategy until October 31, 2018. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the resolution to adopt the 2018 Capital Improvements Element Annual Update as prepared by Ross + Associates and approved by the Department of Community Affairs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

## County Manager's Report

Mr. Stephenson reminded the board of previous issues with the Inman Solar representative, Steve Chiariello.

County Attorney Bruce Warren did not have a report.

## Purchasing Committee Report

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify a 5/25/2018 purchase from Petroleum Products for gas at \$2.3623 per gallon and diesel at \$2.3427 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to award the annual contract for ready mix Portland cement to The Scruggs Company. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to award the annual contract for the automated fuel system to Petroleum Products. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

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

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Wiley E. Grady, Chairman

ATTEST:

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M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk