

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
October 8, 2019

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

Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1

Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3 (absent)

Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5

Phillip V. Brown, Vice-Chair, Dist. 7

Moses Gross, Dist. 2

Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4

Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8 (Absent)

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, Attorney Joseph Cargile, Planning Director Ken Gay, and County Clerks Twink Monahan/Celeste Tyler.

Others present were Todd Edwards, Representative Darlene Taylor, Jim Glass, and News/Media Patti Dozier.

Chairman Grady opened the meeting and Commissioner NeSmith gave the invocation.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously. Chairman Grady and Commissioners Gross, NeSmith, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Todd Edwards, ACCG Deputy Legislative Director who presented the 2019 Legislative Service Award to Representative Darlene Taylor. Representative Taylor was commended for her tireless work on the Governmental Affairs and Agricultural Committees, as well as, her strong commitment to working with local government. Chairman Grady thanked Representative Taylor for a great job representing Thomas County.

Chairman Grady recognized Mr. Jim Glass. Mr. Glass introduced himself as the new President of Southern Regional Technical College as of July 1, 2019. Mr. Glass emphasized the number one concentration of the College is workforce development. He looks forward to being a good partner with Thomas County.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to appoint Ms. Carolyn Simmons to the Department of Family and Children Services Board to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Heather Stroh. The term expires on June 30, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously. Chairman Grady and Commissioners Gross, NeSmith, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to accept the annual contract with the Department of Human Services – Transit for fiscal year 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rich and approved unanimously. Chairman Grady and Commissioners Brown, Gross and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman recognized County Manager Michael Stephenson who made a recommendation to have a work session at the beginning of the year to review the Land Use Standards ordinances and regulations. Mr. Stephenson also reviewed the zoning application 19-9-1, Gerald Pionessa, Jr., agent for property owner, Mount Sinai Apostolic Church, Inc. The request for a land use reclassification from AG (Agricultural) to

R-2 (Single Family Residential) will go in front of the PLUS Commission next Monday and will be presented for Board action on October 22nd.

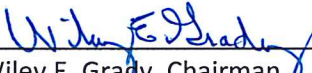
County Manager Michael Stephenson also thanked Representative Darlene Taylor for her diligence to keep decision making at the local level rather than the General Assembly.

County Manager Stephenson also discussed pending Marketplace Facilitators. He also reported that sales tax in Thomas County has been relatively flat since 2008. In the 2019 session this legislation passed in the House, but did not pass in the Georgia Senate.

Chairman Grady reminded everyone of the Legislative Lunch on October 28, 2019.

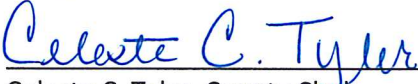
Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the ratification of the Timber sale for \$158,484.46 by Norton Timber. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith and approved unanimously. Chairman Grady and Commissioners Brown, Gross, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously. Chairman Grady and Commissioners Gross, NeSmith, and Rich voting aye. Adjourned at 9:32 a.m.



Wiley E. Grady, Chairman

ATTEST:



Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk