

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
December 8, 2020

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:

Phillip V. Brown, Chairman, Dist. 7
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1 (absent)
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3
Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5

Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6
Moses Gross, Dist. 2
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4
Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Planning Director Ken Gay, Public Works Director Tony Bodiford, Facilities Management Director Lyndall Knight, Sheriff Carlton Powell, Emergency Services Director Derrick Ogletree, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

News/Media present: no media was present

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Grady gave the invocation.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2020 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Wiley Grady who made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget Resolution as follows for all funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

**Thomas County
2021 Budget Resolution
All Funds**

Whereas, the Thomas County Board of Commissioners is required by Georgia law to approve balanced budgets for all funds; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, as required by Georgia law to receive public comment on the proposed budget; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners has carefully considered the interests of the citizens of Thomas County, the requirements of public services provided thereunto and the extent of financial resources available to county government.

Now therefore be it resolved that the following budgets are adopted and approved effective on January 1, 2021:

General Fund		
Revenues	\$	24,811,200
Expenses	\$	24,811,200
Unincorporated Services		
Revenues	\$	816,973
Expenses	\$	816,973
Drug Education Fund		
Revenues	\$	30,000
Expenses	\$	30,000
Sheriff's Drug Forfeiture Fund		
Revenues	\$	60,000
Expenses	\$	60,000
Sheriff's Federal Drug Forfeiture Fund		
Revenues	\$	30,000
Expenses	\$	30,000
Enhanced 911 Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,733,297
Expenses	\$	1,733,297
Central Fire District 1 & 2 Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,229,900
Expenses	\$	1,229,900
Thomas County Fire Rescue-Fire District 3 Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,439,400
Expenses	\$	1,439,400
Emergency Services Fund		
Revenues	\$	6,066,151
Expenses	\$	6,066,151
Health Benefits Fund		
Revenues	\$	5,015,000
Expenses	\$	5,015,000
Airport Fund		
Revenues	\$	10,000
Expenses	\$	10,000
Law Library Fund		
Revenues	\$	40,000
Expenses	\$	40,000
County-wide 2017 SPLOST Fund (Project Length)		
Revenues	\$	42,000,000
Expenses	\$	42,000,000
Thomas County 2017 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)		

Revenues	\$	24,012,000
Expenses	\$	24,012,000
Thomas County Area Transit		
Revenues	\$	1,246,578
Expenses	\$	1,246,578
Impact Fees Fund		
Revenues	\$	50,000
Expenses	\$	50,000
Hotel/Motel Tax Fund		
Revenues	\$	340,000
Expenses	\$	340,000
Capital Improvement Fund (Project Length)		
Revenues	\$	1,286,000
Expenses	\$	1,286,000
Recreation Fund		
Revenues	\$	703,346
Expenses	\$	703,346

Approved this the eighth day of December 2020.

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Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the 2021 Board meeting schedule and the 2021 County Holiday Schedule as follows. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

2021 Board Meeting Schedule

January	12	26
February	9	23
March	9	23
April	13	27
May	11	25
June	8	22
July	13	27
August	10	24
September	14	28
October	12	26
November	9	23
December	14	

2021 County Holidays

January 1, Friday	New Year's Day
January 18, Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
May 31, Monday	Memorial Day

July 5, Monday	Fourth of July
September 6, Monday	Labor Day
November 25, Thursday	Thanksgiving
**November 26, Friday	Mandatory Annual Leave
December 23, 24, Thurs / Fri.	Christmas Holidays
December 31, Friday	2022 New Year's Day

**Enacted on 11/14/1989

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Chairman Brown recognized Derrick Ogletree who made a recommendation to designate inactive EMS accounts totaling \$442,778.64 from 2016 and a quarter of 2017 as “doubtful accounts”. These delinquent accounts remain collectible, but are no longer pursued by the Collection Bureau. County Attorney Warren stated that the statute of limitations runs out in four years.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the inactive accounts as “doubtful accounts” as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to reappoint Scott Rich to the Board of Tax Assessors for a three-year term ending 12/31/2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to appoint Linda Solana to the Board of Elections and Registration for a three- year term ending 12/31/2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the diesel fuel purchase from Petroleum Products for \$1.4654/gal. on December 1, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the fuel purchase from Petroleum Products for \$1.3966/gal. on December 1, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the purchase of a Hunter Tire Balancer from Southern Equipment for \$21,369.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the approval to purchase a 2020 Dodge Charger AWD from Stallings Automotive, Inc. for \$26,874.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved 6-0-1 with Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. Chairman Brown abstained due to a conflict of interest.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify approval to accept the Maintenance Striping/RPM Installation bid from Peek Pavement for \$37,150.00 for roads: Mitchell, A Sherrod, and Summerhill. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

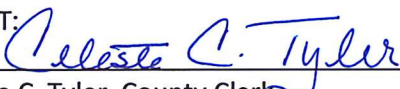
The upcoming committee meetings were announced. The Emergency Services Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on December 14, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. The Public Works Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on December 16, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. The Purchasing Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on January 5, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. The Emergency Services Committee in conjunction with the Southside Fire Station Community Meeting will meet at the Historic Courthouse on January 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who commended Angela Jones in the Public Works Department for her quick response in notifying all parties of the Boston Monticello Road closure due to a bridge defect reported by the GDOT Bridge Inspection team. Commissioner Baggett stated that "it couldn't have been handled any better".

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Gross who expressed his congratulations to former Thomasville High School Bulldog athletic standout, General (Ret.) Lloyd Austin who was chosen as President-elect Biden's nominee for the Secretary of Defense.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.


Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk