

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
November 14, 2023

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:

Zippy Vonier, Chairman, Dist. 8

Jeremy G. Rich, District 1 (absent)

Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3

Wiley Grady, District 6

Donnie Baggett, Vice-Chair, Dist. 5

Moses Gross, District 2 (absent)

Mark NeSmith, District 4

Phillip V. Brown, District 7

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Planning Director Ken Gay, Fleet Services Director Jamie Parrott, Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert, Purchasing Agent Nisha Thurman.

News/Media present: Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio and Jill Holloway, Thomasville Times Enterprise

Chairman Vonier called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Donnie Baggett gave the invocation.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2023 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Donnie Baggett who made a motion to approve the November 14, 2023 agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mark NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized County Manager who acknowledged Donna Holbert who introduced application 23-11-1 for rezoning property located on Springhill Road and U.S. Hwy 319 South (Map 068, Parcel 17) consisting of 64.36 acres more or less. The property owner, Joey Collins, is requesting to rezone the subject parcel from R-1 to R-2, (which changes the minimum lot size from 1 acre lots to .50 acre lots) to allow development of a residential subdivision consisting of approximately 88 lots. Donna Holbert stated that there will be a 50 feet buffer proposed for the Springhill Road portion of the property and the staff recommendation are to approve the request. County Manager request that the Planning and Zoning director clarify what the buffer is going to be for the concern of the neighbors.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel made on November 7, 2023 from Petroleum Products for \$3.0801/gal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nesmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady also made a motion to approve a tobacco surcharge of \$20.00 per pay period beginning January 2025 to employees/spouses/children who use tobacco products and participate in Thomas County's Health Benefit Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion

was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady also made a motion to accept the bid for Clay Targets from Industrial Chemicals for \$21,937.50. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to accept the bid for Right-of-Way Mowing and Litter Pick up from Joiner Contracting LLC for a combined annual total of \$563,160.00 to include the option of a three-year contract at the same pricing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith voting aye.


Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to declare Unit 14-278, 2013 Dodge Charger (Vin# 2C3CDXAT2DH722028) as surplus and donate the vehicle to the Barwick Police Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, and NeSmith, voting aye.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Hickey who announced that the Public Works Committee meeting scheduled for 8:30 am, November 15, 2023 is cancelled.

Chairman Vonier recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Vonier and Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Hickey, and NeSmith, voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.



Zippy Vonier, Chairman

ATTEST: 

Nisha Thurman, Purchasing Agent