

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
July 9, 2024

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 (absent)

Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3

Phillip V. Brown, Dist. 7

Donnie L. Baggett, Vice-Chair Dist. 5

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, Fleet Services Director Jamie Parrott, Transit Director Corey McGee, Sheriff Carlton Powell, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

Others present: Todd Milam, Georgia Forestry Commission

News/Media present: Jill Holloway, Thomasville Times Enterprise

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

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2024 Board Meeting. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the agenda for the July 9, 2024 Board Meeting. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

New Business: Chairman Grady recognized Todd Milam who presented the Rural Fire Defense Cooperative Lease Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between the Georgia Forestry Commission and Thomas County Fire Rescue to the Board. The agreement between the parties shall continue in force from year to year not to exceed 3 years. The Georgia Forestry Commission loans Thomas County three trucks and 1 tanker. The Agreement addresses operational procedures and mutual benefits to each party.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Rural Fire Defense Cooperative Lease Agreement and Memorandum. Commissioner Hickey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Tax Commissioner Alicia Hester and Tax Clerk Diane Detweiler who requested write offs for insolvent personal property (\$19,699.13), mobile home (1,644.49) and property (\$209.60). The timespan of years owing includes 2012 – 2022.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the write offs of insolvent property as presented. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Baggett who gave an update on the Department of Human Services audit and survey for the transit systems in Region 10 / Southwest Georgia Regional Commission. The results, which included customer satisfaction, were excellent. Commissioner Baggett thanked Transit Director Corey McGhee and his department for a job well done.

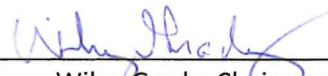
Committee Reports Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the application for the ACCG Employee Safety Grant (\$8500) with expenditures of \$9,864.86. Grant monies will be used to purchase road flag stations, AED, thermal imager, and a Kodiak strut kit. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady made a motion to ratify the purchase of two ¾ ton pick-up trucks including service bodies for Public Works from Brannen for \$140,000. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady made a motion to accept the bids from Vulcan Signs and Osburn Associates for Road Signs (inventory and order as needed). Commissioner Hickey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady made a motion to accept bids from Osceola Supply and Tribe Paper for Janitorial Supplies (inventory and order as needed). Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman Grady, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.



Wiley Grady, Chairman

ATTEST:



Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk