

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Broad St  
July 8, 2025

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:

Mark NeSmith, District 4, Chairman  
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, District 1  
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3  
Phillip V. Brown, District 7

Donnie Baggett, Vice-Chair, District 5  
Moses Gross, District 2  
Wiley Grady, District 6  
Zippy Vonier, District 8

**Staff Present:** County Manager Mike Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Planning Director Ken Gay, Public Works Director Jay Knight, Sheriff Tim Watkins, Chaplain Kevin Lamb, County Clerk Tracy Dukes.

Chairman NeSmith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Chaplain Kevin Lamb gave the invocation.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2025, Board of Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Hickey seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Rich, Gross, Hickey, Grady, Brown, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the July 8, 2025, agenda. Commissioner Vonier seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and Commissioners Baggett, Rich, Gross, Hickey, Grady, Brown, and Vonier voting aye.

**Open Meeting to Citizens:** Chairman NeSmith recognized Wanda Ross of 340 Water Oak Lane, Thomasville, GA. Ms. Ross presented a letter to the Commissioners regarding an incident in which she was attacked/bitten by a pit bull. She reported the incident to the Thomas County Sheriff's Department, Thomas County Health Department, and Thomas County Animal Control. Ms. Ross stated she wanted to be proactive rather than reactive and expressed concern for the safety of neighbors and children in the area.

**Reports:** Chairman NeSmith recognized County Manager Mike Stephenson, who provided an update on pending changes to the Pharmacy Benefits Program. Taylor Benefits is scheduling meetings with employees to inform them about the new program. Taylor Benefits will brief the Board on the outcomes of the meetings and present a potential contract.

**Purchasing:** Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Vonier, who made the following motions:

- **Woven Geotextiles**

- Motion to ratify the bid from Ferguson for Woven Geotextiles (a material placed under

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roadways), on an as-needed basis. Seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Aggregate Rock**

Motion to accept bids by line item from the lowest bidder for Aggregate Rock, on an as-needed basis. Seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Hydroseeding Materials**

Motion to accept the bid from the sole bidder, SiteOne Landscape Supply, for hydroseeding materials, on an as-needed basis. Seconded by Commissioner Rich. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Road Signs**

Motion to accept bids from the lowest bidder for Road Signs, on an as-needed basis. Seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Janitorial Supplies**

Motion to accept bids by line item from the lowest bidder for Janitorial Supplies, on an as-needed basis. Seconded by Commissioner Rich. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Roof Replacement – Public Safety Complex**

Motion to accept the bid from Sunwest Roofing LLC for the replacement of the lower roof on the R. Carlton Powell Public Safety Complex. Seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Budget Amendment 25-7-1 (2023 SPLOST CPF 331)**

Motion to ratify Budget Amendment 25-7-1 for funding to replace the lower roof on the R. Carlton Powell Public Safety Complex. Seconded by Commissioner Rich. The motion was approved unanimously.

**2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT 25-7-1**  
**2023-SPLOST CPF (331)**  
**July 8, 2025**

Account	Description	Original 2025 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
<b>Expenses</b>				
331-3325-541240-000	Jail Rehabilitation	8,000,000	7,924,225	-75,775
331-3325-541240-001	2025-Jail Roof Replacement	0	75,775	75,775
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>

Net Increase to Expenses

\$0

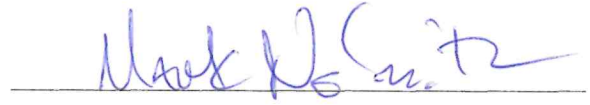
Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Hickey who announced the Public Works meeting has been moved to July 23, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Grady who announced the Emergency Services Meeting on July 15, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

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Charman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Grady seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.



Mark NeSmith, Chairman

ATTEST:



Tracy Dukes, County Clerk