

Minutes
Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Broad St
July 14, 2026

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	Donnie Baggett, Vice-Chair, District 5
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, District 1	Moses Gross, District 2
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3 (absent)	Zippy Vonier, District 8 (absent)
Phillip V. Brown, District 7	

Staff Present: County Manager Mike Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, County Clerk Tracy Dukes, Public Works Director Jay Knight, Accounts Payable Lorie Mitchell

News/Media Present: Jill Holloway, Thomasville Times Enterprise

Chairman Nesmith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and offered the invocation.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026, Board Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the agenda of the July 14, 2026, Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

Open meeting to citizens:

Chairman NeSmith recognized Jeanette Dixon of 148 Cindy Drive, Thomasville, GA 31792, April Quick-Fletcher of 3170 Rocky Ford Road, Coolidge, GA 31738, and Mary Payne of 664 Bond St., Thomasville, GA 31792. All spoke on animal control, the animal control facility, and the need for Ordinances.

New Business:

Chairman NeSmith recognized Nicole Cromer, Georgia Pines. At the Budget Hearing in November 2025, she discussed the opioid settlement resources allocated to Thomas County. Georgia Pines requested \$32,650 for the Co-Responder Program from the opioid settlement funds. Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Rich who made a motion to transfer \$32,650 from opioid settlement funds to Georgia Pines. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

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Chairman NeSmith recognized County Manager Michael Stephenson, who presented the budget amendment for the ARPA Fund-231 which reclassifies the transfer of funds to salaries of essential workers from non-profit agencies. Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the ARPA Fund-231 budget amendment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

ARPA - Compliance Review
June 23, 2026

ARPA Fund-231

Account	Description	Amount
Expenses		
231-9015-51-1100-000	Salaries-Essential Workers	680,000
231-9015-52-2000-000	Non Profit Agencies	-680,000
	Total	0

General Fund-100

Account	Description	Amount
Expenses		
100-0000-39-1000-000	Transfer In-ARPA Fund	680,000
100-9015-51-1100-000	Salaries-Essential Workers	-680,000
	Total	0

To reclassify the transfer of \$680,000 to Salaries of Essential Workers From
Non Profit Agencies.
Payroll Dates 7/10/2020 through 2/5/2021



Mr. Stephenson also discussed Budget Amendment 26-7-1. He recommended approval of the budget amendment as presented. Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 26-7-1 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rich and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

**2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT 26-7-1
UNINCORPORATED FUND (200)
July 14, 2026**

Account	Description	Original 2026 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
200-39-9060	Carryover of Funds	0	1,276,605	1,276,605
	Total			1,276,605

Net Increase to Revenues

\$1,276,605

Account	Description	Original 2026 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Expenses				
200-3575-54-2500	2025-134 SCBA-Replacements	0	1,276,605	1,276,605
	Total			1,276,605

Net Increase to Expenses

\$1,276,605

SCBA replacements ordered in November 2025 and received in May 2026

**2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT 26-7-1
2017 SPLOST CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (329)
July 14, 2026**

Account	Description	Original 2026 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Revenues				
329-34-3300	LMIG-DOT	8,541,125	9,671,500	1,130,375
329-36-1000	Interest	677,200	820,000	142,800
	Total			1,273,175

Net Increase to Revenues

\$1,273,175

Account	Description	Original 2026 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Expenses				
329-3300-54-2425	2025/Sheriff/NEC Print Work St	46,000	39,050	-6,950
329-3300-54-2430	2025/Sheriff/Sex Offender Web	29,000	29,815	815
329-3500-54-1300	Southside Fire Station	1,258,664	1,287,619	28,955
329-3600-54-2511	2024/EMS/(8) Life Pack Monitor	440,000	432,316	-7,684
329-3915-54-1300	Animal Service Shelter	2,250,000	2,267,727	17,727
329-4100-53-1176	2024/PW/Small Projects-Mat	310,000	289,690	-20,310
329-4100-54-2200-336	2025/PW/Dump Truck	230,000	201,316	-28,684
329-4100-54-2200-337	2026/PW/Dump Truck	0	201,316	201,316
329-4100-54-2516	2025/PW/Gooseneck Trailer	24,000	28,999	4,999
329-4200-52-1310	Contracted Striping	636,700	777,300	140,600
329-4203-54-1405	Cindy Drive-LMIG	112,500	81,872	-30,628
329-4204-54-1405	Inman Lane-LMIG	60,750	41,160	-19,590
329-4205-54-1405	Marcia Lane-LMIG	47,250	31,912	-15,338
329-4206-54-1405	Linwood Lane-LMIG	47,500	32,116	-15,384
329-4207-54-1405	Millpond Road-LMIG	99,000	64,833	-34,167
329-4208-54-1405	Clyde Griffin Road-LMIG	182,137	295,569	113,432
329-4220-54-1405-155	Duren Drive-LMIG	0	58,000	58,000
329-4220-54-1405-160	South Duren Drive-LMIG	0	25,000	25,000
329-4220-54-1405-205	Ozell-2026-LRA	0	1,100,000	1,100,000
329-6150-54-1225	County Pond Rehab	457,510	375,994	-81,516
329-9010-57-9000	Contingencies	1,178,727	1,021,309	-157,418
	Total			1,273,175

Net Increase to Expenses

\$1,273,175

**2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT 26-7-1
2023 SPLOST CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (331)
July 14, 2026**

Account	Description	Original 2026 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
Expenses				
331-1565-54-1301	Government Buildings	1,618,000	1,598,855	-19,145
331-2190-54-2400	2026/Jud Ctr-Webcontrol Upgra	0	19,145	19,145
331-3300-54-2200	Public Safety Equipment	2,260,333	2,270,489	10,156
331-3300-54-2200-010	2026/35 Mobile Laptops	185,000	139,236	-45,764
331-3300-54-2200-030	2026/SO-7 Pursuit Veh/Equip	467,667	468,331	664
331-3390-54-2200	2026/AS/Dodge Durango	0	34,944	34,944
331-4200-54-1405	Road & Bridge Projects	14,923,000	15,032,943	109,943
331-4100-54-2200-001	2025/PW/Sign Truck & Body	165,000	148,700	-16,300
331-4100-54-2200-005	2026/(3) 1/2 Ton Pickups	150,000	129,000	-21,000
331-4100-54-2500-001	2025/PW/Front End Loader	265,000	179,500	-85,500
331-4100-54-2500-005	2026/PW/2 Zero Turn Mowers	24,000	28,000	4,000
331-4300-54-2200-001	2026/SAN/Grapple Truck	230,000	238,857	8,857
July 14, 2026	Total			0

Net Increase to Expenses

\$0

Reports:

Chairman NeSmith recognized County Attorney Bruce Warren who recommended approving the annexation of properties on Baytree Drive to the County. Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to annex the Baytree Drive properties to the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

Brookwood De-Annexation Resolution

Lot #19, 431 Baytree Drive; Lots #20 and #21, 393 Baytree Drive;
Lot #22, Tax Parcel 0689-TH-022; Lot #23, 341 Baytree Drive; Lot
#24, 305 Baytree Drive; Lot #25, 303 Baytree Drive

WHEREAS, Brookwood School, Inc., has requested the Council of the City of Thomasville to de-annex the properties described above; and

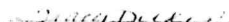
WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. §36-36-22 provides that the governing authority of Thomas County adopts a resolution consenting to such de-annexation;

NOW THEREFORE, the Thomas County Commission adopts the following resolution:

Resolved that the Thomas County Board of Commissioners hereby consents to the de-annexation of the above referenced properties and that it be made part of the unincorporated area of Thomas County, Georgia.

ADOPTED this 14th day of July 2026.

ATTEST:


Tracy Dukes, County Clerk


Mark NeSmith, Chairman

Chairman NeSmith made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel from Petroleum Products for \$3.35/gallon on June 29, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman NeSmith made a motion to ratify approval of payment to Griffin Uniforms for the purchase of uniforms for Facilities Management in the amount of \$4,008.18. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman NeSmith made a motion to Ratify approval of the revised proposal from Lang Mechanical, Inc. for the installation of a 10-ton split system in the 911 Center computer room, in the amount of \$32,864.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and, approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

Chairman NeSmith made a motion to ratify approval for the purchase of fourteen (14) roll-off containers from the lowest responsive bidder, Lewis Steel, in the amount of \$73,930.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rich and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye

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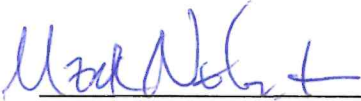
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Chairman NeSmith made a motion to ratify approval for the purchase of a large dishwashing machine, including installation labor and parts, from the sole source vendor Southern Products & Services, Inc. in the amount of \$23,408.09. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously with Chairman NeSmith and, Commissioners Baggett, Gross, Brown, and Rich voting aye.

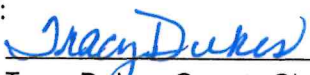
Commissioner Baggett announced a Personnel Committee Meeting on July 16, 2026.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Brown who made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett and approved unanimously.

Adjourn: 9:38 a.m.



Mark NeSmith, Chairman

ATTEST: 

Tracy Dukes, County Clerk