

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
December 13, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
225 North Board Street
Thomasville, GA

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:

Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman, Dist. 3	Phillip V. Brown, Vice-Dist. 7
Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1	Moses Gross, Vice-Chairman, Dist. 2
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	J. Elaine Mays, Dist. 8

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times-Enterprise.

Chairman Hickey gave in invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve minutes from the November 22, 2016 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Grady, Gross, Ansley, NeSmith and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Bill Eddings, Planning and Zoning Director. Mr. Eddings stated that Tony and Marlene Bienes have applied for a preliminary site approval for Green Village. The proposed location is located on GA Hwy 3, Map 55, Parcel 95, 10.64 +/- acres. The Bienes are proposing nine lots of ½ acre each. This parcel is zoned R2. Mr. Eddings stated that the Planning and Zoning Department has reviewed the preliminary site and the proposed plat meets all of the necessary requirements. Tony Bienes stated that they plan to build rental homes, but they will not be subsidized for low income.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the preliminary site plan for 10.64 +/- acres located on GA Hwy 3, Map 55, Parcel 95 for Tony and Marlene Bienes for the construction of 9 homes on ½ acre lots for rental income property. The motion was seconded by Chairman Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Shelley Zorn who requested that the Thomasville Payroll Development Authority report be postponed to a later date.

Chairman Hickey recognized William Clark, attorney for Inman Solar. Mr. Clark was asking about the progress of the ordinance for solar installations. He also asked if the hearing process for the zoning can run parallel with the ordinance adoption process since there is a March 31 completion date in the contract with Inman Solar. Chairman Hickey asked how long has Inman been working with the landowner and in comparison how long has it been since Inman contacted the county. Commissioner Mays said we have a process in Thomas County and it is unfair for the county and its staff to be asked to hurry. Commissioner NeSmith stated that he sees complications in running the ordinance implementation process with zoning application. He also stated the parcel may be too small for this type use with setbacks and buffers.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the 2017 Budget Resolution of all Thomas County Funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried by a 5 to 3 vote; Chairman Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye. Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, and Gross all opposed.

**Thomas County
2017 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 15, 2016, 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, 2017:

General Fund		
Revenues	\$	23,199,604
Expenses	\$	23,199,604
Unincorporated Services		
Revenues	\$	523,300
Expenses	\$	523,300
Drug Education Fund		
Revenues	\$	51,000
Expenses	\$	51,000
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	\$	1,525,173
Expenses	\$	1,525,173
Central Fire District Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,265,368
Expenses	\$	1,265,368
Thomas County Fire Rescue Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,346,100
Expenses	\$	1,346,100
Emergency Services Fund		
Revenues	\$	4,740,675
Expenses	\$	4,740,675
Commercial Collection Fund		
Revenues	\$	60,300
Expenses	\$	60,300

Health Benefits Fund			
	Revenues	\$	4,843,100
	Expenses	\$	4,843,100
Airport Fund			
	Revenues	\$	10,000
	Expenses	\$	10,000
Law Library Fund			
	Revenues	\$	40,000
	Expenses	\$	40,000
County-wide 2012 SPLOST Fund (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	42,000,000
	Expenses	\$	42,000,000
Thomas County 2012 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	22,000,000
	Expenses	\$	22,000,000
Thomas County 2006 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	28,110,976
	Expenses	\$	28,110,976
Thomas County Area Transit			
	Revenues	\$	1,118,500
	Expenses	\$	1,118,500
Impact Fees Fund			
	Revenues	\$	221,300
	Expenses	\$	221,300
Hotel/Motel Tax Fund			
	Revenues	\$	300,900
	Expenses	\$	300,900
Capital Improvement Fund (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	9,878,901
	Expenses	\$	9,878,901
Recreation Fund			
	Revenues	\$	100,000
	Expenses	\$	100,000

Approved this the thirteenth day of December 2016.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve 2016 Budget Amendment 16-12-1, \$585,774. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried by a 5 to 3 vote; Chairman Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye. Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross all opposed.

**2016 BUDGET AMENDMENT 16-12-1
2012 SPLOST - CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (328)
December 13, 2016**

Account	Description	Original 2016 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference	
Revenues					
328-34-9910	Misc. Reimbursements	0	13,283	13,283	
328-34-9915	City of Thomasville Reimbursements	0	28,440	28,440	

328-36-1000	Interest	0	20,000	20,000	
328-38-3000	Reimbursement for Damaged Property	0	72,331	72,331	
328-39-3100	Loan Proceeds	0	451,720	451,720	
	Total			585,774	
Net Increase to Revenues					\$585,774
Expenses					
328-2108-54-1300	JJC Expansion Project	2,145,000	2,176,000	31,000	
328-4200-52-3400	Printing & Binding	0	81	81	
328-4200-58-1100	Debt Service	0	484,450	484,450	
328-4209-54-1405	Infra-Roads-Egg & Butter Road	310,650	320,501	9,851	
328-4251-54-1405	Infra-Roads-Metcalf	3,400,000	3,298,232	-101,768	
328-4259-54-1405	Infra-Roads-County Line Road	219,406	221,964	2,558	
328-4260-54-1405	Infra-Roads-Fredonia/19/County Line	27,192	29,442	2,250	
328-4266-54-1405	Infra-Roads-Gatlin Creek/122/Summer	110,542	103,786	-6,756	
328-4286-54-1405	Infra-Roads-Haines Street	78,582	78,876	294	
328-9010-57-9000	Contingencies	1,422,999	1,586,813	163,814	
	Total			585,774	
Net Increase to Expenses					\$585,774

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to appoint Britt Wetherington to the Thomas County Planning and Land Use Standards Commission to fill unexpired term of Bob Hutchinson whose term (position #3) will end 12/17/2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to reappointed Len Powell to the Board of Assessors for a 3 year term which expires 12/31/19. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to postpone the reappointment request from Nathan Wilson to the Elections and Registration Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried by a 5-3 vote; Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, and Ansley voting aye. Chairman Hickey, Commissioners Mays and Grady in opposition.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Ansley who made a motion to reappoint Donnie Baggett to the Georgia Pines Community Service Board, 2 year term, which expires 1/31/2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Chris Jones, Fire Chief and EMA Director. Chief Jones explained that the Emergency Management Ordinance has to be updated every four years in order for Thomas County to make a declaration of emergency and implement the emergency operations plan due to a major event. This plan and ordinance signifies that Thomas County is in compliance with current law to receive certain approved reimbursements through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Gross who made a motion to approve the updated Emergency Management Ordinance to be submitted to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to approve the 2017 Observed Holidays and Board Meeting Schedule as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

2017 Observed Holidays

New Year's Day 2017	Monday, January 2 Observed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 16
Memorial Day	Monday, May 29
Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 4
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 23
Day after Thanksgiving Day	Friday, November 24 (mandatory Annual Leave for Employees)
Christmas Eve	Monday, December 25 (Observed)
Christmas Day	Tuesday, December 26 (Observed)
New Year's Day 2018	Monday, January 1

2017 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule

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

Manager's Report:

Mr. Stephenson reviewed the distribution formula of the Occupational Tax (hotel/motel) as set by Georgia Legislation. The legislation sets 37.5% to Thomas County, 25.0% to Destination Thomasville and

37.5% to Thomasville – Event Center of the 8% being collected.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the distribution of the Thomas County portion of the Hotel-Motel Tax according to the 2010 Census; Boston 2.94, Meigs 2.31, Ochlocknee 1.51, Coolidge 1.17, Pavo 1.40 and Barwick .086. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to approve bonuses to the collection site attendants based on 30% of the scrap metal collections; \$264.13 per worker. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the following fund transfers as recommended by the County Manager. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Amount:	From:	To:
\$500,000	Committed Fund Balance, Unincorporated Services	Unincorporated Services Fund
\$100,000	General Fund	Recreation Fund
\$150,000	General Fund	Capital Improvement Fund (Hancock Center Parking Lot)

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to ratify the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Transit Contract with Department of Human Resources Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the final payment to CCH for the construction of the 911 Call Center, \$174,506.34. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mays. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the final payment to Jinright, Ryan, & Lynn for architectural services at the 911 Communications Center of \$1,269. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee recommendation to purchase aggregate rock from A Mining and purchase as needed. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee recommendation to award the 2017 annual tool bid to the lowest bid per item, providing all specifications are met, to Tom Horne Supply, Holley, Inc. and Whitehead Hardware. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to ratify the diesel purchase, on 12/09/2016, Petroleum Products, \$1.7090 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the EMS write-offs for the years 2011 and 2012 of uncollectable debt, \$83,865.05. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey presented a Proclamation honoring J. Elaine Mays for serving District 8 and all citizens of Thomas County for 16 years, 2001-2016, as a commissioner. Several commissioners commended Commissioner Mays for her service and dedication. Thomas County Department Heads and Elected Officials were present. Chairman Hickey invited all present to join with them in a reception at the close of the meeting.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.


Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:


M. Twink Monahan, Clerk