

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
June 14, 2016

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-Chair, Dist. 7
Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1	Moses Gross, Dist. 2
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	J. Elaine Mays, Dist. 8

Staff present was Joe Cargile, County Attorney and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times-Enterprise and Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio.

Chairman Hickey called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith to give the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2016 Board Meeting. 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 Mark Lowe and Todd Bennett of John D. Archbold Medical Center. Mark Lowe, V.P. Archbold Medical Center, explained to the board that the Thomas County Schools, Thomasville City Schools, City of Thomasville, Thomas County, Thomas County-Thomasville Chamber of Commerce are being asked to join with Archbold Medical Center to form an alliance to improve the health of our community. An advisory group from these leaders of the community, named Live Better, and through their collective efforts strive to reverse our negative health trends; obesity, heart disease, cancer.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to proclaim support for Live Better and August 26<sup>th</sup> as Live Better Day in Thomas County. 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.

Proclamation  
of the  
Thomas County Board of Commissioners

**WHEREAS**, the ability to solve problems can often be best realized when community leaders unite;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the obesity rate and prevalence of chronic disease are typically higher locally than compared to Georgia and U.S. averages and are generally rising; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of poor health on our families and businesses are profound; and

**WHEREAS**, Archbold Medical Center has led an effort to improve the health of our community by creating an advisory group with members from an alliance between the hospital, the City of Thomasville, the Thomas County Board of Commissioners, Thomas County Schools, Thomasville City Schools, the Thomas County-Thomasville Chamber of Commerce, and the Thomasville *Times-Enterprise*; and

**WHEREAS**, this alliance, named Live Better, will leverage the strengths of each of its partners through an advisory group to improve the health of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Live Better logo will serve as a visible public identifier of the collective efforts of this alliance in all areas of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the vision to improve the health of our community and reverse our negative health trends is in our collective best interests and shall remain a high priority:

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim great support for Live Better and declare August 26<sup>th</sup> as Live Better Day in Thomas County.

**SO DONE**, this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2016.

Chairman Hickey recognized Hunter Drew who came before the board to request consideration to improve the ISO ratings in the area that he lives in, Ozell Road. His insurance rates are rising annually and is asking the county to expand services. He stated that about 3-4 years ago he addressed the board about this issue and that Ocilla Plantation offered to donate land to the county for a substation.

This area falls outside a 5 mile radius of a manned or volunteer station and is rated a 10. A volunteer station would be sufficient in reducing the ratings. A station in the area he would have to be equipped and have volunteers assigned to answer calls.

Chairman Hickey said that the board would look into the matter.

Chairman Hickey recognized Mayor Greg Hobbs, City of Thomasville. Mayor Hobbs read and presented to the Board with the Big Oak Award and a resolution applauding the board for their commitment to the historic preservation and renovation of the historic Thomas County Courthouse.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to authorize the chairman to sign the FY2017 Capacity Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections to house 185 state inmates at the Thomas County Prison. 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 Ansley who made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Solid Waste Committee to proceed with the wells, septic systems, and floors for the attendant houses at the Dillon and Riverwood sites, not to exceed the \$55,000 left in the 2016 sanitation site budget and to prepare specifications for 20-yard roll off containers to purchase as many containers as possible without exceeding the \$23,300 in the Enterprise Fund reserve. 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 NeSmith who made a motion to ratify the action taken at the Road Committee on 5/28/2016, being in the best interest of public safety, on a one-time basis only to patch potholes in Sanford Heights Subdivision on US 319 North. 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 Gross who made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Emergency Services Committee to purchase from Custom Truck and Body Works, Inc. a 2016 Falcon LT rescue truck mounted on a 2016 Dodge Ram 4500 cab & Chassis, DRW, diesel Extrication for \$137,900. 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 Mays who made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Committee to purchase metal pipe for Public Works stock from Gulf Atlantic Culvert for \$27,537. 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 approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Committee to purchase a bulldozer for Public Works from Flint Equipment Company for \$97,487 with a 5 year, 3,000 hour warranty for \$3,977, less trade in of unit #521, a motor grader, \$60,500, and Unit #510 a bulldozer, \$17,500, for a net purchase price of \$23,464. 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.

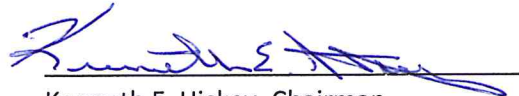
Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Purchasing Committee to purchase a tractor for Public Works from Albany Tractor Company, Pelham, GA for \$40,423.13. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Mays who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel on 5/24/2016 at \$1.5753 per gallon from Petroleum Products. 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 Ansley who made a motion at 9:40 a.m. to enter into closed session to discuss a personnel matter as provided in O.C.G.A §50-14-3(6). 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.

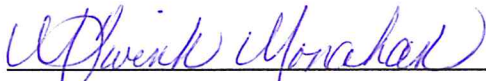
Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Gross who made a motion to return to open session at 10:16 a.m. reporting that there was no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Mays voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to adjourn. 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.



Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk