

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
August 22, 2017

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 (Absent)
Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4	Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5
Wiley E. Grady, Dist. 6	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was Bruce Warren, County Attorney, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk and Thelma Maxwell, Assistant County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise. Others present were Tony Bodiford, Public Works Director, Ken Gay, Inspections, Planning and Zoning Director, Tim Coram, Martin Smith and James Mann, EMS Co-Directors, and Donna Holbert, Zoning Administrator. County Manager Michael Stephenson was absent.

Chairman Hickey opened the meeting and Commissioner Grady gave the invocation, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Baker who made a motion to approve the 8/7/17 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey declared a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public commitments on Conditional Use Application 17-8-1, Oil Dri Corporation of Georgia/Inman Solar, Steve Chiariello, agent for Oil Dri, who requests a conditional use zoning for property located on GA Hwy 3 (19.3 acres, more or less, identified on Map 73, Parcel 39) from Ag to AG C.U. Solar Facility so as to allow for the installation of a Solar Facility.

Chairman Hickey recognized Donna Holbert, Zoning Administrator, to explain the application. Mrs. Holbert stated that this is a new application that has been approved by the PLUS Commission and meets all the standards outlined in the code for Solar Facilities.

Chairman Hickey asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in favor of the application. He recognized Steve Chiariello the agent for the property owner and Inman Solar. Mr. Chiariello stated that the design and location that is being considered has been changed from a previous request and now meets all requirements.

Chairman asked for anymore comments in support of or in opposition. Being none he closed the public hearing.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve Conditional Use Application 17-8-1, Oil Dri Corporation of Georgia/Inman Solar, Steve Chiariello, agent for Oil Dri, who requests a conditional use zoning for property located on GA Hwy 3 (19.3 acres, more or less, identified on Map 73, Parcel 39) from Ag to AG C.U. Solar Facility so as to allow for the installation of a Solar Facility. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve on the recommendation of the Emergency Services Committee, 8/21/2017, to contract with Emergency Billing LLC for the billing and collections of the transport fees from the EMS effective 9/1/2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the updated EMS fee schedule as recommended by Emergency Billing, LLC and approved by the Emergency Services Committee, 8/21/2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Thomasville on the principle of 5 points concerning the right of ways (ROW) on South Pinetree Blvd;

1. City will take ROW on Pinetree Blvd. from West Jackson eastward to East Jackson.
2. County will take ROW on Pinetree Blvd. From East Jackson westward to West Jackson.
3. The City will construct improvements on South Pinetree from West Jackson to Magnolia Street (including a roundabout, curb & gutter & sidewalk).
4. The City will accept the \$3 million from the Georgia Dept. of Transportation and the City will contribute \$1.1 million in utility improvements in the project area.
5. The County will vote on the City's project at its regular meeting on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady.

Chairman Hickey called for discussion on the motion. Commissioner Brown stated this is not what he told the citizens in the public hearing at the Resource Center and at a meeting at the Emergency Services Center.

Chairman Hickey called for a vote.

Motion carried 6-1; Chairman Hickey, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye. Voting in opposition was Vice-Chairman Brown.

Commissioner Grady stated that the efforts by Commissioners Gross and Brown with Commissioner Brown being the driving force is how the project came into being and the grant awarded.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to authorize the chairman to send a letter outlining the proposed 5 points concerning South Pinetree Blvd. to the City of Thomasville to begin the process for an intergovernmental agreement of the right of ways on Pinetree Blvd. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried 6-1; Chairman Hickey, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye. Voting in opposition was Vice-Chairman Brown.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the diesel fuel purchase on 8/16/2017 from Petroleum Products at \$1.6890 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the 2017 Millage Rate Resolution with the Thomas County School tax and a due date of November 15, 2017.

**RESOLUTION**  
THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
P.O. BOX 920  
THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA 31799  
August 22, 2017

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting for County purposes in a special called meeting and for the purpose of setting millage and levying a tax for 2017, that it be and is hereby ordered that nine and two tenths (9.20) mills on each one dollar of all taxable property in the incorporated areas of said Thomas County, and that it be and is hereby ordered that nine and two tenths (9.20) mills with a roll back of Insurance Premium Tax of one and four hundred seventy six thousandths (1.476) mills leaving seven and seven hundred twenty four thousandths (7.724) mills on each one dollar of all taxable property in the unincorporated area in said Thomas County, be and the same is hereby levied for Thomas County purposes, said rate to be apportioned for legal purposes of said Thomas County under constitutional limitations of the State of Georgia; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be, and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said Thomas County purposes, as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS: The proper Legislation was enacted and a referendum was held there under as provided therein on June 16, 1965, at which time the voters of Fire District Number 1 and 2, as described in said Legislation approved said Act creating fire districts in Thomas County and authorizing the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, to levy upon the taxable value of all property within such fire districts for fire protection purposes in said districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in regular meeting for County purposes, that it be and it is hereby ordered that three and one hundred forty nine thousandths (3.149) mills upon the taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said County Fire District 1, and three and one hundred twenty three thousandths (3.123) mills upon taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said Fire District 2, as described in said act creating Fire Districts in Thomas County, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of said County furnishing fire protection services within such district; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be, and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said purposes by law; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of Commissioners of Thomas County have adopted Resolution dated December 9, 1986, that there is created within Thomas County, Georgia, pursuant to the authority of Article IX, Section II, paragraph VI, of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, of 1983, a special service district to be known as Fire District No. 3 of Thomas County, Georgia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in regular meeting for County purposes, that it be and it is hereby ordered that two and three hundred fifty three thousandths (2.353) mills upon the taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said County Fire District 3, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of said County furnishing fire protection services within such district; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said purpose by law; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of Commissioners of Thomas County have adopted a Resolution dated February 11, 2003 that there is created in Thomas County, pursuant to the authority of Article IX, Section II Paragraph VI of the Constitution of the State of Georgia of 1983, a special service district to be known as Emergency Service District of Thomas County, Georgia.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in a regular meeting for County Purposes, that it be and it is hereby ordered that one and seven hundred sixty four thousandths (1.764) mills upon the taxable value of each one dollar of all property located in said county Emergency Services District, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of

said County furnishing emergency services within such district; and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County be and is hereby instructed to collect the same for said purpose by law; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, that it be and is hereby ordered that said mills above be assessed for State purposes and that the Tax Commissioner of said Thomas County, be instructed to collect the same as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS: the Board of Education of Thomas County, Georgia, having recommended a levy of fourteen and four hundred seventy four thousandths mills (14.474) on all taxable property in said Thomas County, not embraced within the present corporate limits of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, for the support and maintenance of education for County-wide schools, as provided by law for the taxable year of 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Thomas County, Georgia, sitting in regular meeting that the taxable year 2017 a tax of fourteen and four hundred seventy four thousandths mills (14.474) for the support and maintenance for County-wide schools be levied on each one dollar of all the taxable property in said Thomas County not embraced within the present corporate limits of the City of Thomasville, Georgia, and that the Tax Commissioner of Thomas County, Georgia, be and is hereby instructed to collect the same for the support and maintenance for County-wide schools for the taxable year of 2017 as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Commissioner is hereby instructed to set a due date of November 15, 2017 for 2017 taxes.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 17-8-1 for the Capital Projects Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

2017 BUDGET AMENDMENT 17-8-1 2012 SPLOST - CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (328) August 8, 2017					
Account	Description	Original 2017 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference	
<b>Expenses</b>					
328-4229-541405	Infra Roads- Beachton	455,045	518,401	63,356	
328-4231-541405	Infra Roads- Griffin	212,454	199,078	-13,376	
328-4233-54-1405	Infra Roads- Pummy	286,925	327,975	41,050	
328-4236-54-1405	Infra Roads-Old Bee Line	143,376	141,147	-2,229	
328-4237-54-1405	Infra Roads- Lawhorne	278,512	433,332	154,820	
328-4238-54-1405	Infra Roads-Airport	182,928	229,038	46,110	
328-4244-54-1405	Infra Roads- Parramore Fish Pond	345,626	347,331	1,705	
328-4245-54-1405	Infra Roads-Lower Boston Road	461,175	415,060	-46,115	
328-4247-54-1405	Infra Roads- Singletary	114,655	117,449	2,794	

328-4252-54-1405	Infra Roads-Hall/Newton/A Sherrod	214,240	264,374	50,134	
328-4261-54-1405	Infra Roads-Harts Mill	334,741	385,851	51,110	
328-4283-54-1405	Infra Roads-Myrick	61,574	107,405	45,831	
328-9010-57-9000	Contingencies	1,441,131	1,045,941	-395,190	
	<b>Total</b>			<b>0</b>	
<b>Net Increase to Expenses</b>					<b>\$0</b>

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the contract for billing and collection services with Emergency Billing LLC effective September 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the recommended fee schedule for EMS services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

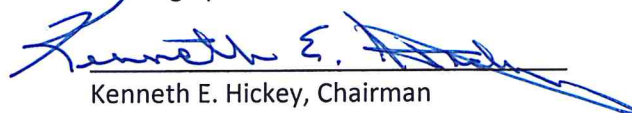
Description	Current Rate	Proposed	Medicare Allowed
Mileage	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$ 11.04
Advanced Life Support Non-Emergency	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$252.85
Advanced Life Support 1	\$450.00	\$575.00	\$400.34
Basic Life Support Non-Emergency	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$210.71
Basic Life Support	\$400.00	\$525.00	\$337.13
Advanced Life Support 2	\$650.00	\$700.00	\$579.44
Specialty	\$750.00	\$800.00	\$684.79
Response Fee	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$ 0.00

Chairman Hickey opened the meeting to citizens who wish to address the board but not listed on the agenda. He explained that each person would be given 3 minutes to speak.

First speaking were Andy Choice and Lucinda Brown. All those who spoke were addressing an officer involved shooting where Herbert Gilbert was fatally shot. A letter was submitted to the board and asked the board to respond within 30 days. Several others spoke about justice and peace for the community.

Upcoming committee meetings were announced.

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

  
Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk