

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
February 28, 2017

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a regular scheduled meeting at 6:00 p.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	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager, Thelma Maxwell, Assistant Clerk and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise.

Chairman Hickey called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Brown who gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2/14/2017 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baker, Gross, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Don Shiver, Thomas County Coroner. Mr. Shiver requested that the board approve a total of three (3) deputy coroners for Thomas County. The statues allow for one (1) and any additional has to be approved by the board. Salaries would not change in the budget and he does have the training covered in the 2017 budget. He also noted that they will be on-call only when he is unable to take a call. Selected are Charles Jones, Tom Coram and Mark Sealy in answer to Commissioner Gross' inquiry.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the Coroner's request to two (2) additional deputy coroners for Thomas County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Don Lyles, Senior Attorney, Public Defenders Office. Mr. Lyles explained that their copier, though not budgeted, needed to be replaced. Commissioner NeSmith reminded him that these type purchases should be budgeted.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the purchase of a Kyocera TA-4002i copier with a large capacity tray from Rumbles Office City for \$7,250.88. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Josh Niswonger of Central High School. Mr. Niswonger explained the Thomas County Student Ambassador program and the projects that the students have, such as serving

as a page for members of our legislative branches. Students attending and grade; Maggie Martin-12th, Anna Jense-12th, Kennedy Ward-11th, Hailey Ferrell-11th, Sierra Stephens-11th, Chandler Watson-12th, Cole Redfean-12th and Michael Moody-11th.

There were no committee reports. The upcoming committee meetings were announced.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter into closed session to discuss property in accordance to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4) at 6:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to return to open session at 7:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey reported there is no action to be taken as the result of the closed session.

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 and Commissioners Baker, Ansley, NeSmith, Grady, Gross and Vonier voting aye.


Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:


M. Trwink Monahan, County Clerk