

City County Workshop

May 22, 2017

Thomas County Library, 201 Madison Street  
Noon

Present were: Chairman Kenneth E. Hickey, Vice-Chairman Phillip Brown, Commissioners Moses L. Gross, Zippy Vonier, Wiley Grady, Merrill Baker, Mark Nesmith and Hershel Ansley. Also present was Mike Stephenson, County Manager, Twink Monahan, County Clerk,

Representing the City of Thomasville was Mayor Greg Hobbs, Mayor Pro-Tem Don Sims, Councilmembers Max Beverly, Jay Flowers, and Terry Scott. Also present was Steve Sykes, City Manager and Felicia Brannen, City Clerk.

Mayors representing the Thomas County Municipalities were Danny Groover, Boston; Diane Causey, Coolidge; Ronelle Searcy, Ochlocknee and Kellie Overmier, Barwick City Clerk.

Representing the media was Patti Dozer, Times Enterprise, and Chris Hurst, WPAX/WLOR.

Chairman Hickey called the meeting to order and gave the invocation.

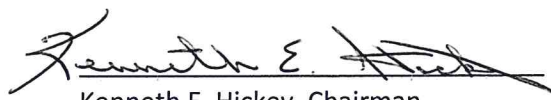
Michael Stephenson explained the SPLOST distribution handout comparing the options with and without a level 1 & 2 projects. Following a thorough discussion of the options, Chairman Hickey asked the small town mayors their opinion about whether they wanted to have tiered projects or not. Mayor Causey said that it would be in Coolidge's best interest not to have tiered projects and to allocate their SPLOST funds as they see fit. Mayor Bryan from Pavo said he agreed with Mayor Causey. City Clerk Kellie Overmier suggested each small town should devote a percentage of their SPLOST proceeds to recreation. Mayor Groover and Mayor Searcy said that it is also best for Boston and Ochlocknee not to have tiered projects.

Steve Sykes said that he thought it would be okay for the small towns to receive their pro-rated share but that the City of Thomasville should not be responsible for all recreation capital improvements for because it is countywide project. County Manager Mike Stephenson agreed with Mr. Sykes that the small towns should receive their full pro-rated share and that Thomasville and the County can discuss recreation funding at a later date. Mr. Stephenson pointed out that the county plans to spend 18 million of its SPLOST proceeds for road improvements, which is also a county-wide project.

In conclusion there was general consensus to the following: 1) Recreation Advisory Board would submit an itemized list of capital projects proposed for the SPLOST; 2) the small towns would receive their sales tax at the full prorated amount; 3) the City of Thomasville and Thomas County will determine recreation funding for capital projects at a later date; 4) all parties will meet again at the end of June of the first of July sponsored by the City of Thomasville.



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk



Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman