

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
September 26, 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 (Absent)	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager, Bruce Warren, County Attorney, Thelma Maxwell Deputy Clerk, and Twink Monahan, County Clerk. Media present was Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio and Jordan Barela, Times Enterprise.

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

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

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the 2017 SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement executed by the City of Thomasville on September 20, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

This Intergovernmental Agreement entered into this the 20 day of September 2017 by and between Thomas County, Georgia and the cities of Thomasville, Barwick, Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, Ochlocknee, and Pavo and (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Governmental Entities") for the purpose of implementing the provisions of the Official Code of Georgia as they relate to implementation of a County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST).

WHEREAS, the Governmental Entities desire to provide a formula for distribution of funds to the Governmental Entities located in the Special Taxing District, and provide an agreement to meet the requirements of O.C.G.A. §48-8-115; and

WHEREAS, the projected revenue to be generated in the 24 quarters that the SPLOST will be in existence is \$42 million dollars but may exceed this amount, and the parties wish to provide for the allocation of any and all revenues received; and

WHEREAS, a meeting was conducted on August 31, 2017 pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. §48-8-111 to outline capital outlay projects to be funded by the SPLOST and approved by referendum; and

WHEREAS, Thomas County has requested that the cities of Thomasville, Barwick, Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, Ochlocknee, and Pavo enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement to determine the amount, duration and distribution of the SPLOST for all approved capital outlay projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

SECTION ONE

Fund Allocation for SPLOST Capital Outlay Projects

The expected funds for capital outlay projects to be used for the construction of roads, bridges, streets, water systems, sewer systems, storm water systems, construction of recreation facilities and the purchase of recreation equipment, construction of library facilities and purchase of library equipment, construction of public safety facilities, the purchase of public safety equipment, and the purchase of public works equipment as provided in O.C.G.A. §48-8-111 are projected to be \$42.0 million dollars and will be allocated by percentages and estimated amounts as follows, up to the first \$42 million dollars in SPLOST revenue collected:

*Estimated Distribution Pro-Rated by 2010 Population

Thomas County	48.6%	\$	20,412,000
Thomasville	41.2%	\$	17,304,000
Boston	2.9%	\$	1,218,000
Meigs	2.3%	\$	966,000
Ochlocknee	1.5%	\$	630,000
Coolidge	1.2%	\$	504,000
Pavo	1.4%	\$	588,000
Barwick	0.9%	\$	378,000
Total	100.0%	\$	42,000,000

SECTION TWO

Excess Fund Allocation For Funds Exceeding \$42 Million Dollars

All remaining Excess Funds shall be allocated to the Governmental Entities according to the percentages set forth in SECTION ONE and used for the projects shown in Section One, provided however that the City of Thomasville allocates \$2,000,000 of its \$17,304,000 pro-rata share for the construction of recreation facilities and the purchase of recreation equipment.

SECTION THREE

Procedures for Distributing Proceeds to Qualified Governmental Entities

First \$42 million Dollars & Excess Funds

Any funds received shall be distributed as provided in SECTION ONE. All funds received by each Governmental Entity shall be maintained in a discrete account for each project, and upon receipt, funds will be distributed pro rata among the project accounts. Regardless of the total revenues collected, the Thomas County cities shall be paid their respective percentages as provided in SECTION ONE.

SECTION FOUR

Schedule and Priority of Funding

All funds received by Thomas County which are to be distributed to the cities shall be distributed within 10 business days after the end of the month in which the funds are received. All funds received by each Governmental Entity participating in this Intergovernmental Agreement shall be maintained in discrete accounts and accounted for as separate and discrete funds.

SECTION FIVE

Fund Accounting, Record Keeping and Audit

All funds received by each Governmental Entity which is a party to this Intergovernmental Agreement shall be maintained in a separate designated fund and shall not be intermingled with any other funds maintained by the Governmental Entity. All records shall be kept by fund so that the records may be audited by each Governmental Entity's designated auditor, and a complete audit of all funds generated by the SPLOST shall be completed annually and made a part of each annual audit performed by the Governmental Entity. No funds generated by the SPLOST shall be expended for any project unless the project meets the criteria shown in O.C.G.A. §48-8-111. All funds received and expended shall be subject

to the procedures outlined in O.C.G.A. §48-8-122.

**SECTION SIX
Agreement**

All capital outlay projects outlined above shall be funded as provided and the funds shall be expended as shown unless otherwise agreed by the parties to this Intergovernmental Agreement. If approved by referendum, the SPLOST shall terminate after six years, on December 31, 2024.

**SECTION SEVEN
Severability and Completeness**

If any law, regulation or court decision shall cause any provision of this Intergovernmental Agreement to be rendered invalid, the remaining provisions of this Intergovernmental Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. This Intergovernmental Agreement reflects the entire understanding between the parties and may not be modified except in writing by the authorized representatives of the parties.

**SECTION EIGHT
Ballot Language**

The ballot for the question of imposing the SPLOST shall read as follows:

- () YES Shall a special 1 percent sales and use tax be imposed in the special district
- () NO Of Thomas County for a period of time not to exceed 24 calendar quarters and for the raising of an estimated amount of \$42 million for the purpose of capital outlay projects in Barwick, Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, Ochlocknee, Pavo, Thomasville and Thomas County, Georgia, including *road, street, and bridge improvements; the construction of government buildings & facilities; the construction of public safety facilities; the purchase of public safety equipment; the construction of recreation facilities; the construction of library facilities; the construction of water, sewer, and/or storm water capital outlay projects to be owned and operated by qualified municipalities within the special district.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the authorized representatives of the parties have hereunto set their hands and affixed the seals of the respective Governmental Entities as of the date above first written.

THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

THE CITY OF THOMASVILLE

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Finance Committee's recommendation for 2017 Budget Amendment 17-9-2, amendment due to adding EMS Director position, with benefits to 2017 Budget. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

2017 BUDGET AMENDMENT 17-9-2					
Emergency Services Fund (273)					
September 19, 2017					
Account	Description	Original 2017 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference	
Revenues					
273-34-2600	Ambulance Fees	1,430,000	1,513,713	83,713	
	Total			83,713	
Net Increase to Revenues					\$83,713
Expenses					
273-3600-511100	EMS-Salaries & Wages	1,619,213	1,680,576	61,363	

273-3600-512100	Group Insurance	350,000	360,000	10,000	
273-3600-512200	Social Security	124,000	128,700	4,700	
273-3600-512400	Retirement Contributions	79,000	82,700	3,700	
273-3600-512600	Unemployment Ins.	4,000	4,050	50	
273-3600-512700	Workers Compensation	95,000	98,900	3,900	
	Total			83,713	
Net Increase to Expenses					\$83,713

Chairman Hickey recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to approve the list of surplus and scrap items for auction as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey opened the meeting to citizens to address the board who are not listed on the agenda.

Chairman Hickey recognized Tommy Patel, Bellingham Drive. Mr. Patel said that Thomasville and all surrounding counties have passed Sunday beer sales. He said that people are going to purchase on Sundays and he would like the stores in the county to have the same opportunity for the sales. He asked that it be taken to the voters. Bruce Warren stated that it was too late to go to the voters in the November election. Chairman Hickey said that it would first have to be voted on by the board and then to the voters. Mr. Warren said he would work on the wording for the board to consider.

Chairman Hickey recognized Lee Cook, Summerhill Road. Mr. Cook expressed his concerns with the litter on the Summerhill Road. The chairman asked that Tony Bodiford look into it.

Chairman Hickey recognized Ronnie Herring of Ochlocknee. Mr. Herring spoke of Sheriff Carlton Powell and his 40+ years of service. With over 60 citizens present, Mr. Herring stated they just wanted to show their appreciation.

Mr. Stephenson updated the board on Hurricane Irma and that under the declaration we will receive reimbursement for debris removal and protective measure expenses. He also include the process for paving a dirt road and the current checklist of his priorities.

Mr. Warren reported that he has been working with the City of Thomasville's attorney but they do not have a draft of the Pinetree Boulevard agreement. He expects to have the radio agreement next month.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation to add Shady Lane to the Paving List. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the Road Committee's recommendation for Budget Amendment 17-9-3 providing funds for an excavator and frontend loader due to the excessive cost of repairs on the existing units. The motion was seconded by

Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

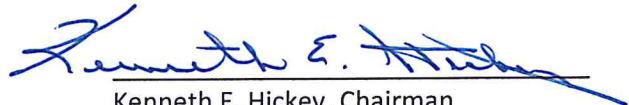
Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify purchases for gas and diesel; 8/28/2017 for gas \$1.8748 Plantation Petroleum and for diesel \$1.7156 Petroleum Products. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify purchase of diesel; 9/22/2017 \$1.9307 Petroleum Products. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to enter in to an executive session at 5:35 p.m. to discuss legal matters with the County Attorney. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Hickey recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to reenter into open session at 7:12 p.m. reporting that there is no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Hickey, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

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


Kenneth E. Hickey, Chairman

ATTEST:


M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk