

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
January 23, 2018

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:

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wiley Grady, Chairman, Dist. 6 | Phillip V. Brown, Vice-Chair, Dist. 7 |
| Merrill E. Baker, Jr., Dist. 1 | Moses Gross, Dist. 2 |
| Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3 | Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4 |
| Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5 | Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8 |

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, Bruce County Attorney Warren, County Clerk Twink Monahan and Assistant Clerk Thelma Maxwell. Media present was Chris Hurst, WPAX Radio, Ashlyn Becton, WALB, and Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise. Other staff present were Tony Bodiford, Public Works Director, Ken Gay, Inspections, Planning and Zoning Director and Donna Holbert, Zoning Administrator.

Chairman Grady asked Marty Carnes, the pastor of Thomasville First Church, to give the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Vice-Chairman Brown introduced Thomasville High School Principal Chip Clatto. Mr. Clatto told the board what he wants to bring to the high school is a workforce development program, biomedical program and engineering science classes. As the new principal he stated he wanted no more excuses and expected education at the highest level. He also invited the members of the board tour the school.

Chairman Grady declared a Public Hearing to receive citizen input for zoning application 18-1-1, Wendy Slusher, CG to R-3, 476 Russell Road to allow for a residential homesite.

Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert explained to the board that of the 11 Zoning Criteria, all complied except #2, was the request consistent with all elements of the comprehensive plan. Ms. Holbert further explained that adjacent properties have residential use. Staff and the Planning and Land Use Commission recommend approval of the request.

Chairman Grady asked for citizen comments in favor or opposition. Being none the chairman closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve Zoning Application 18-1-1 Wendy Slusher, CG to R-3, 476 Russell Road to allow for a residential homesite. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Mike Fisher and Ferrell Scruggs of The Scruggs Company. Chairman Grady stated that in the 11/28/2017 Board Meeting Mr. Fisher was asked to meet with the landowners on Janes Lane and adjacent landowners to come up with an acceptable compromise of conditions for zoning application 17-11-1, Surface Mining.

Mr. Fisher said that he had met with a representative of the landowners and presented them with the following conditions:

- The Scruggs Company agrees to operate the surface mining pit for up to 4 years with an option to add an additional 1 year if needed.
- Hours of operation will be 7:30 am to 5:30 pm daily
- The Scruggs Company will install and maintain an earthen berm along the southeast border of the mine.
- The Scruggs Company will operate and maintain 2 entrance/exit drives. The primary drive will be located on McMillan Road. The secondary drive will be located on the Maddox Road. Scruggs plans to utilize the primary entrance as long as conditions allow.

Lonnie Kirk of 415 Janes Lane was recognized. He stated the 4 years was not acceptable. There are 9 homes in the immediate area and they feel their land values will be negatively affected.

Chairman Grady asked for a motion with conditions. Planning Director Ken Gay said condition of land use can be dust, noise, berms, and types of border trees. Commissioner NeSmith asked Mr. Fisher the height of the berm. Mr. Fisher stated it would be a 10 foot buffer. Commissioner NeSmith pointed out that the property had an ample vegetative buffer but Scruggs had it taken down. He also asked if the entrance from Maddox Road could be paved. Mr. Fisher stated that it is not cost effective to pave an entrance. He also asked the board to vote on the application tonight.

Ron Hamilton, an adjacent landowner, said that the ditches that are on the Scruggs property have caused flooding of his deer stands.

Ferrell Scruggs told the board that he was trying to work with the County. He also said that he could apply for a pit mining permit with the state without County approval.

Commissioner Hickey said that the only condition not agreed upon was the limitation of one year.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the application with the 5 conditions changing the time period to 12 months. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier.

Discussion

County Attorney Bruce Warren stated there is a process in place in the Planning and Zoning Department to review site plans. Technical Review Committee also reviews the plans.

After more discussion of the processes Chairman Grady called for a vote.

Commissioner Hickey amended his motion, Seconded by Commissioner Vonier to include setting the conditions submitted by The Scruggs Committee changing the time limit to 12 months to be included in the application for review by the Technical Review Committee and final site plan approval by the board. Motion carried by a 4 to 3 with 1 abstention. Commissioners Hickey, Vonier, Ansley and Baker in favor; Commissioners NeSmith, Brown and Grady opposed. Commissioner Gross abstained due to a business conflict of interest.

Chairman Grady recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to approve the December 12, 2017 board minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, Grady and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve qualifying fees for 2018. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

A RESOLUTION
2018 Election QUALIFYING FEES

WHEREAS, state law in O. C. G. A. 21-2-131(a)(1) authorizes the County Governing Authority to fix qualifying fees at 3% of base salary.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Thomas County Board of Commissioners set qualifying fees for the 2018 Election as follows:

2018 Qualifying Fees
County Commissioner \$108
County School Board Member \$ 54

Adopted this the 23rd day of January

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the financial resolution for conducting business with financial institutions. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

THOMAS COUNTY
FINANCIAL AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION

I, M. Twink Monahan, certify that I am Clerk of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, with Federal I. D. Number 58-6000893, and that the resolutions on this document were adopted at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners on January 23, 2018. These resolutions appear in the minutes of this meeting and have not been rescinded or modified, to wit:

Any two agents listed herein are authorized to exercise the powers granted as indicated below:

| Name & Title | Signature | Facsimile |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Wiley E. Grady, Chairman | X _____ | X _____ |
| 2. Merrill E. Baker, Finance Chairman | X _____ | X _____ |
| 3.. Michael J. Stephenson, County Manager | X _____ | X _____ |

Powers granted are listed as follows:

1. Open any deposit or share accounts in the name of the County.
2. Endorse checks and orders for the payment of money or otherwise withdraw or transfer funds on deposit with Financial Institutions.
3. Enter into a written lease for the purpose of renting, maintaining, accessing and terminating a Safe Deposit Box in the Financial Institutions.

I further certify that the Thomas County Board of Commissioners has, and at the time of adoption of this resolution had full power and lawful authority to adopt the foregoing resolutions and to confer the powers granted to the persons named who have full power and lawful authority to exercise the same.

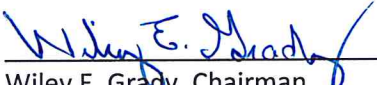
In a witness whereof, I have subscribed my name to this document and affixed the seal of Thomas County, on January 23, 2018.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Gross who made a motion to approve change order #4 Landmarks/Metcalf Streetscape for a service connection in the amount of \$19,615.82 as requested by Joe Brown. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Brown. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

There were no citizen comments.


Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the sale of Timber to clear cut acreage as outlined in the specifications for the expansion of the landfill to Canfor, \$120,131. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

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



Wiley E. Grady, Chairman

ATTEST:



M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk