

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
March 27, 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:

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 Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise. Other staff present were Tony Bodiford, Public Works Director, Donna Holbert, Inspections, Planning and Zoning.

County Manager Michael Stephenson gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2018 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2018 Special-Called meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the minutes of the Me March 21, 2018 City County Workshop. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady declared a public hearing to hear two (2) conditional use zoning applications and one (1) road closure.

Chairman Grady asked Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert to explain Application #18-3-1. Value Concepts, Inc., agent for property owner (Odus Darrell King), requests a conditional use zoning for property located on Beeline Road (Map 31, Parcel 42, (100' x 100' portion.) The property is zoned Ag (Agricultural) and a conditional use zoning would allow for the installation of a 350 foot cellular telecommunications tower.

Mrs. Holbert stated that the request meets 6 of the 7 zoning criteria for a conditional use, has been recommended by staff, and the Planning and Land Use Standards (PLUS) Commission approved the request by a 3 to 1 vote.

Chairman Grady asked the petitioner for comments. Clay Brogdon, Southern Linc, Jay Smith, Georgia Power and Buddy Robinson, Value Concept, Inc. addressed the board. Mr. Brogdon listed the clients served by Southern Linc and the importance of its technology during and emergency event. Southern Linc's technology will operate when others are not. This location and height will give good reception in the area for emergency communications.

Georgia Power Area Manager Jay Smith stated the tower will give clear communication during an outage. Commissioner NeSmith asked if Georgia Power owns the tower. NexTower owns the tower and other providers can lease space on the tower. Commissioner NeSmith asked about the other towers located in the same area. Buddy Robinson stated the other towers are too short and antenna positioning is a problem. Commissioner NeSmith also said that since the application is conditional use is it possible for space to be available to the county or City of Thomasville to expand broadband services. Mr. Robinson stated he understood public service need and will try to work with agencies.

Chairman Grady asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the application. There were no comments. Chairman Grady asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition of the application. There were no comments.

Chairman Grady asked Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert to explain Application #18-3-2. Value Concepts, Inc., agent for property owner (John David Howard) requests a conditional use zoning for property located on Ga. Hwy. 3 (Map 74, Parcel 53, (100' x 100' portion.) The property is zoned Ag (Agricultural) and a conditional use zoning would allow for the installation of a 300 foot cellular telecommunications tower.

Mrs. Holbert stated that the request meets 6 of the 7 zoning criteria for a conditional use, has been recommended by staff, and the Planning and Land Use Standards (PLUS) Commission approved the request unanimously.

Chairman Grady asked the petitioner for comments. Clay Brogdon, Southern Linc, addressed the board. Mr. Brogdon stated the request is basically for the same thing except a different location and height.

Chairman Grady asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the application. There were no comments. Chairman Grady asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition of the application. There were no comments.

Petition to close a portion of Stephens Road was discussed.

Chairman Grady stated that the request from Charlie Griffin to close a portion of Stephens Road had been advertised as required. Mr. Griffin is the landowner on both sides of the road. Chairman Grady asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the request. There were no comments. Chairman Grady asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition of the request. There were no comments.

Chairman Grady closed the public hearing.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve Application #18-3-1, Value Concepts, Inc., agent for property owner (Odus Darrell King), requests a conditional use zoning for property located on Beeline Road (Map 31, Parcel 42, (100' x 100' portion.) The property is zoned Ag (Agricultural) and a conditional use zoning would allow for the installation of a 350 foot cellular telecommunications tower with the condition of Thomas County or the City of Thomasville to be able to lease space on the tower (to be defined by the April 10, 2018 Board Meeting). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. Motion carried 7-1, Commissioner Gross abstained stating a conflict of interest and Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Hickey, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve Application #18-3-2, Value Concepts, Inc., agent for property owner (John David Howard) requests a conditional use zoning for property located on Ga. Hwy. 3 (Map 74, Parcel 53, (100' x 100' portion.) The property is zoned Ag (Agricultural) and a conditional use zoning would allow for the installation of a 300 foot cellular telecommunications tower with the condition of Thomas County or the City of Thomasville to be able to lease space on the tower (to be defined by the April 10, 2018 Board Meeting). 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.

Chairman Grady recognized Vice-Chairman Brown motioned that the Thomas County Commission has made a preliminary determination that the portion of Stephens Road lying between a point 3,964 feet from the intersection of Stephens Road and Hall Road no longer serves any substantial purpose and to approve Charlie Griffin's request, the only landowner on both sides of the road, to close the road. 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.

The Emergency Services and Personnel Committees have met but there was no official action to be taken by the board.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify action taken in the 3/21/2018 Road Committee; amend Joiner Contracting, LLC mowing contract by an increase of \$78,100 for picking up litter after each round of mowing. 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 NeSmith who made a motion to ratify action taken in the 3/21/2018 Road Committee to proceed with the DOT agreement for a cost study for right of way acquisition on the Old 84 West, Palmer, and Coffee Road bridges. 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.


Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to ratify action taken in the 3/21/2018 Road Committee to contract with Concrete Enterprises at \$7.00 per ton to crush the rubble from the demolition of the prison. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baker. 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