

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
May 8, 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-absent	Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4
Hershel P. Ansley, Dist. 5	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, County Clerk Twink Monahan and Assistant Clerk Thelma Maxwell. Media present was Patti Dozier, Times Enterprise and Chris Hurst, WPAX. Other staff present were Tony Bodiford, Public Works Director; Lyndall Knight, Facilities; Ken Gay, Inspections, Planning and Zoning.

Chairman Grady gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Grady declared a public hearing to consider a resolution transmitting a draft Capital Improvements Element 2018 Annual Update report.

Mr. Bill Ross, Ross + Associates, explained briefly the update is required every year relating to the county's impact fee program. The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) will review and forward to the Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Ross also explained the RC has approved the amendment to the Capitol Improvement Element of the Comprehensive Plan to include the shooting range in the recreation division of the plan.

Chairman Grady asked if there were any citizens wishing to make any comments, there were none and the chairman closed the public hearing.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the resolution to transmit the 2018 annual Capital Improvements Element update to the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission for review and approval and to the Department of Community Affairs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley and approved unanimously. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the resolution to adopt the 2018 Capital Improvements Element as amended and approved by the Department of Community Affairs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Dr. Dusty Kornegay the Thomas County School Superintendent. Dr. Kornegay introduced Dr. Lisa Williams who will be the new superintendent upon Dr. Kornegay's retirement on May

30, 2018. Dr. Williams told the board about her history with the school board and she looks forward to serving in her new role.

Dr. Kornegay introduced Coach Ashley Henderson. Coach Henderson told the board his history of playing and coaching football and is thankful the position as head coach opened in Thomas County and he that was selected. His goal is for the academic and physical advancement of the players.

Chairman Grady presented Dr. George H. "Dusty" Kornegay, Jr. with a proclamation recognizing and honoring him for his thirty years dedicated service to the People of Thomas County.

Chairman Grady opened the meeting to anyone who would like to address the board. There was none.

County Manager Michael Stephenson asked Director Ken Gay to explain the upcoming zoning applications to be heard by the Planning and Land Use Commission on Monday May 14. Mr. Gay explained application 18-5-1 is applying for a medical hardship variance to have a travel trailer on 15926 GA Hwy 188. This is an acre lot with a mobile home resident presently on the property. A letter from the Thomas County Environmental Health states that a separate septic system will have to be installed by the drain field could be shared after the system is pumped out. He noted all medical hardship variances are reviewed annually and monitored by Code Enforcement.

Mr. Gay explained application 18-5-2 is to rezone property located at East Pinetree Blvd at Old Boston Road. A year ago the board approved to change the zoning from Commercial General to RM11. The property owner now requests to have Commercial General-Conditional Use for storage units.

Commissioner NeSmith told Director Gay that there is some strong opposition to application 18-5-1 from citizens in the area.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the Purchasing Committee's recommendation to purchase turnout gear for the fire department from Municipal Equipment Co. for coats, pants, suspenders, boots, and hoods and from Municipal Emergency Services helmets and gloves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ansley. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the following contracts for the construction of the Four Oaks Volunteer Fire Station; Howell's Buildings for \$25,412, Bennett Electric for \$4,838 and Steel Building Systems, Inc. for \$1,500, with Four Oaks Plantation reimbursing the county for the costs up to \$40,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the 90-day pricing for aggregate rock to Conrad Yelvington Distributors. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.


Chairman Grady recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the diesel purchase on May 7, 2018 from Petroleum Products at \$2.2792 per gallon. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to enter into closed session at 9:37 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.


Chairman Grady recognized Vice-Chairman Brown who made a motion to return to regular session reporting there is no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. Motion carried unanimously; Chairman Grady, Vice-Chairman Brown, Commissioners Baker, Gross, NeSmith, Ansley, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Grady stated there was no other matters before the board and called for a motion to adjourn.

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


Wiley E. Grady, Chairman

ATTEST:


M. Twink Monahan, County Clerk