

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
February 23, 2021

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:

Phillip V. Brown, Chairman, Dist. 7

Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1

Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3

Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5

Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6

Moses Gross, Dist. 2

Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4

Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Director Jamie Parrott, Public Works Director Tony Bodiford, Sheriff Carlton Powell, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

News/Media present: Chris Hurst, WPAX radio

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order, and Commissioner Rich gave the invocation.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Jamie Parrott who presented a list of proposed surplus equipment, parts, and miscellaneous from the Fleet Services Department. Commissioner Grady made a motion to approve the list as submitted as surplus and authorized the sale of said list on GovDeals online auction. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Reports:

Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephens who requested that the 2021 Budget be amended to include a new department, Judicial Center Facilities Support. The current cleaning crew will continue their normal cleaning process/schedule and Clerk of Court, Randa Wharton will oversee the additional custodial services.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget Amendment 21-2-1 to include new department, Judicial Center Facilities Support, out of the General Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

County Manager Stephenson also requested that the 2021 Budget be amended to include the resurfacing of Lake Riverside Streets, a project that was approved at the December 16, 2020 Public Works Committee meeting.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget Amendment 21-2-1 to include resurfacing the Lake Riverside Streets out of the SPLOST 2017-CPF. The

motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

County Manager Stephenson asked the Board to approve a fund transfer from Unincorporated Services to the Emergency Services Fund. He expressed the importance of complying with Georgia law and our Service Delivery Strategy. The expenses in the fire fund will continue to lessen as more employees get cross-trained in Fire/EMS. This adjustment or transfer should happen every year. Sticking with the methodology has created healthy fund balances and has kept the County from having to raise property taxes.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the fund transfer from Unincorporated Services to the Emergency Services Fund as requested (\$630,407.00). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

County Manager Stephenson also announced that Alston Watt asked the County to allow the use of the Scott Senior Center as a vaccine site for a volunteer COVID-19 vaccine program. All agreed that the Scott Senior Center is a great location for this.

Chairman Brown recognized County Attorney Warren who updated the Board on his efforts to find a deed for the Ellaville and Merriville properties. His research has taken him back to the 1800's but is still unfruitful. He will report back at a future meeting.

Purchasing Committee:

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the bid award for two Interceptors from Wade Ford (\$74,310.00) and two Dodge Chargers from Akins Ford (\$52,240.00) for the Sheriff's Office. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved (7-0-1) with Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. Chairman Brown abstained.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the bid award for a Ford Interceptor from Wade Ford (\$39,008.00) for the Drug Squad. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved (7-0-1) with Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. Chairman Brown abstained.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the bid awards for a Chemical Spray Truck from Chemical Containers (\$153,425.57), Roll-off containers from Lewis Steel Works (25,770.00), and a ½ ton Pickup Truck from Stallings (\$28,008.00) for the Public Works Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hickey. The motion was approved (7-0-1) with Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. Chairman Brown abstained.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the purchase of fuel from Petroleum Products for \$1.7837/gal on February 11, 2021 and the purchase of diesel fuel from Petroleum Products for \$1.9264/gal on February 19, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Public Works Committee:

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to ratify the contract for Green Maintenance & Cleaning which reflects a 2% increase to the yearly contract for mowing and litter pickup. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Hickey made a motion to ratify approval to grant Crowder Pit to chip the inert debris. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

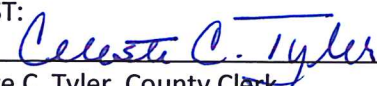
Commissioner Hickey made a motion to ratify approval for new construction and re-surfacing the 2nd Round project list (2017 SPLOST) as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown, and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye.

New Construction			
Road name	Comm Dist	Miles	Estimated \$
Wade Chastain	4	0.85	467500
Centennial (bet 122 & Lawhorne)	4	1.4	770000
Resurfacing			
Bulloch (bet GA 3 and Lee White)	3	3.35	418750
Myrick (bet US 19 and Shauna Lane)	3	1.83	228750
Rook	3	0.37	46250
McMillan (GA 3 to Grady Co Line)	3	4.3	507750
Enon	4	8.3	1037500
Powell Drive	5	1.32	165000
Salem (bet SR 122 and SR 188)	4	3.47	433750
Reichertville (bet Twelve Mile Post and Boston Monticello)	5	2.33	291250

The upcoming committee meetings were announced. The Purchasing Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on March 2, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. The Public Property Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on March 4, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baggett. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, Hickey, NeSmith, Rich, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.


 Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:

 Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk