

Minutes
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3rd Floor
225 North Board Street
December 14, 2021

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners met on the above date in a regular scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. at the Historic Courthouse, Commission Chambers, with the following board members present:

Phillip V. Brown, Chairman, Dist. 7 (absent)	Wiley E. Grady, Vice-Chair, Dist. 6
Rev. Jeremy G. Rich, Dist. 1 (absent)	Moses Gross, Dist. 2
Kenneth E. Hickey, District 3 (absent)	Mark NeSmith, Dist. 4
Donnie L. Baggett, Dist. 5	Zippy T. Vonier, Dist. 8

Staff present was County Manager Michael J. Stephenson, County Attorney Bruce Warren, Finance Director Laura Nichols, Public Works Director Tony Bodiford, Fleet Services Director Jamie Parrott, Planning Director Ken Gay, Emergency Services Director Derrick Ogletree, Tax Commissioner Alicia Hester, Elections and Registration Director Frank Scoggins, Sheriff Carlton Powell, Charity Manwaring, and County Clerk Celeste Tyler.

News/Media present: Pat Donahue, Thomasville Times Enterprise; Chris Hurst WPAX

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order, and County Manager Stephenson gave the invocation.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephenson who recommended the Audit Services of Lanigan & Associates for FY 2021, 2022, & 2023. John Keillor, representing Lanigan & Associates was present and introduced to the Board.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the Audit Services by Lanigan & Associates for FY 2021, FY 2022, and FY 2023 as recommended by the County Manager. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown stated that upon his review of the submitted documents for a Package Beer & Wine License request, all requirements according to Thomas County's ordinance have been met. The applicant is Ankitaben K. Patel, Yug Shakti, LLC dba Gas and Grill at 12216 US Hwy 84 East, Thomasville, Georgia.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the application for a Package Beer & Wine license by Ankitaben K. Patel, Yug Shakti, LLC dba Gas and Grill at 12216 US Hwy 84 East, Thomasville, Georgia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget for all funds by Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

**Thomas County
2022 Budget Resolution
All Funds**

Whereas, the Thomas County Board of Commissioners is required by Georgia law to approve balanced budgets for all funds; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on Monday, November 15, 2021, as required by Georgia law to receive public comment on the proposed budget; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners has carefully considered the interests of the citizens of Thomas County, the requirements of public services provided thereunto and the extent of financial resources available to county government.

Now therefore be it resolved that the following budgets are adopted and approved effective on January 1, 2022:

General Fund		
Revenues	\$	26,063,500
Expenses	\$	26,063,500
Unincorporated Services		
Revenues	\$	1,359,903
Expenses	\$	1,359,903
Drug Education Fund		
Revenues	\$	30,000
Expenses	\$	30,000
Sheriff's Drug Forfeiture Fund		
Revenues	\$	60,000
Expenses	\$	60,000
Sheriff's Federal Drug Forfeiture Fund		
Revenues	\$	30,000
Expenses	\$	30,000
Enhanced 911 Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,779,553
Expenses	\$	1,779,553
Central Fire District 1 & 2 Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,331,556
Expenses	\$	1,331,556
Thomas County Fire Rescue-Fire District 3 Fund		
Revenues	\$	1,550,400
Expenses	\$	1,550,400
Emergency Services Fund		
Revenues	\$	6,940,000
Expenses	\$	6,940,000

Health Benefits Fund			
	Revenues	\$	5,015,000
	Expenses	\$	5,015,000
Airport Fund			
	Revenues	\$	10,000
	Expenses	\$	10,000
Law Library Fund			
	Revenues	\$	40,000
	Expenses	\$	40,000
County-wide 2017 SPLOST Fund (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	42,000,000
	Expenses	\$	42,000,000
Thomas County 2017 SPLOST-CPF (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	31,205,000
	Expenses	\$	31,205,000
Thomas County Area Transit			
	Revenues	\$	1,229,112
	Expenses	\$	1,229,112
Impact Fees Fund			
	Revenues	\$	50,000
	Expenses	\$	50,000
Hotel/Motel Tax Fund			
	Revenues	\$	340,000
	Expenses	\$	340,000
Capital Improvement Fund (Project Length)			
	Revenues	\$	1,194,000
Expenses	\$		1,194,000
Recreation Fund			
	Revenues	\$	654,123
Expenses	\$		654,123
ARPA - Grant Fund			
	Revenues	\$	4,777,466
	Expenses	\$	4,777,466

Approved this the fourteenth day of December 2021.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to approve the 2022 Commission Meeting Schedule and the 2022 Thomas County Holiday Schedule as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

2022 Board Meeting Schedule

January	11	25
February	8	22
March	8	22
April	12	26
May	10	24
June	14	28
July	12	26
August	9	23
September	13	27
October	11	25
November	8	22
December	13	

2022 Holiday Schedule

<u>Date Observed</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
December 31, 2021 Friday	New Year's Day
January 17 Monday	Martin Luther King,
May 30th Monday	Memorial Day
July 4th Monday	Independence Day
September 5th Monday	Labor Day
November 24th Thursday	Thanksgiving
** November 25th Friday	Mandatory Leave
December 23rd, 26th, Friday/Monday	Christmas Holidays
<u>2023</u>	
January 2nd Monday	New Year's Day
**Enacted 11/14/1989	

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to adopt the annual Zero Tolerance Drug and Alcohol Policy for Thomas County Area Transit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Brown recognized Emergency Services director Derrick Ogletree who requested approval to designate inactive EMS accounts as "Doubtful Accounts". The requested accounts total \$255,879.90 and represent accounts beginning in May 1, 2017 and ending April 30, 2018 that have remained inactive for the last two years.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion to designate the forementioned accounts totaling \$255,879.90 as "Doubtful Accounts" and transfer them from Accounts Receivable to

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

Chairman Brown recognized Fleet Services Director Jamie Parrott and Public Works Director Tony Bodiford who requested the following:

- 15-317 2015 Charger817588
- 10-123 2010 Charger304468
- 139 2001 F150B41170
- 826 1999 F350C86955
- 49 2005 Crown Vic 2FAFP71W05X143627
- Walk behind Floor Scrubber
- Large Vacuum cleaner
- Roto Vacuum cleaner with assembly
- 50 – 5’ x 8’ construction scaffolding

to be declared as surplus and to authorize the sale of these items on GovDeals/online auction. Commissioner NeSmith made a motion to declare the items as presented as surplus and authorize the sale of such items on GovDeals/online auction. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Board Appointments

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to re-appoint Eddie Brown, Sr. to the Thomas County Assessor Board. His term will expire on 12/2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Grady made a motion to appoint Michael Borden to the Elections and Registration Board. This will be his first term, and the term will expire on 12/2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Open Meeting to Citizens

Chairman Brown recognized Sheriff Carlton Powell who publicly thanked the Commissioners and the County Manager for all they have done to support the Thomas County employees and Constitutional Officers.

Chairman Brown recognized Ms. Ruthie Pfaff of 118 Young St., Thomasville, GA who spoke in favor of a joint resolution between the City of Thomasville and Thomas County that would commit to the goal of 100% renewable energy by 2035

Chairman Brown recognized Ms. Shirley Jackson of 727 Crowley Road, Thomasville, Georgia who inquired about the canceled ARPA Community Meeting and applauded the wage increase for Thomas County employees

County Manager’s Report

Chairman Brown recognized County Manager Stephenson who reviewed the third phase of re-surfacing for 2017 SPLOST. Public Works Director Tony Bodiford presented this at a previous meeting after hearing that the upcoming pricing for resurfacing roads will increase substantially in 2022. As directed, bids went out for the project and were submitted and reviewed on December 13, 2021. The recommendation was made to accept low bidder, Scruggs Company (\$3,734,682.37).

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner NeSmith who made a motion accept the bid from The Scruggs Company for re-surfacing, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

County Manager Stephenson briefed the Board on the Service Deliver Strategy, a document formalized every ten years (Thomas County 2028). He is recommending that the Board approve an updated Service Delivery Strategy to include the Emergency Medical Services.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to accept the recommendation from the County Manager to update the Serviced Delivery Strategy to include Emergency Medical Services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vonier. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Committee Reports

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify approval of payment (\$21,000.00) to Frank Carlton for services rendered (survey and alignment) on Centennial Road. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of a six- month bid for aggregate rock from Martin Marietta. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of a six- month bid for hydroseeding from Delta Landscape. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the acceptance of a six- month bid for woven geotextiles from Willacoochee Industrial Fabrics. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the approval to lease two motor graders from Flint Equipment (annual payment \$85,495.00). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the approval of vehicle specifications for a ½ ton crew cab truck (Facilities and Maintenance). The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the approval of vehicle specifications for a Cargo Van (Elections & Registration). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grady. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye.

Commissioner Baggett joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Vonier made a motion to ratify the approval of vehicle specifications for 4 Ford Interceptors (Sheriff's Department). The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved 5-0-1 with Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. Chairman Brown abstained from the vote citing an employer conflict.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to ratify the approval of vehicle specifications for a 1-ton crew cab (Public Works). The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. Commissioner Vonier stated that he would like to discuss a possible upgrade at the next Public Works Committee meeting.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Baggett who reported on his attendance, along with County Manager Stephenson, at the Boston City Council meeting on December 13th. Interest has been shown for Thomas County to provide service/maintenance for their vehicles. A maintenance proposal to include Boston, Pavo, and Coolidge will be presented at a future date.

The upcoming committee meetings were announced. The Public Works Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on December 15, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. The Emergency Services Committee will meet at the Historic Courthouse on December 20, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner Grady who made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner NeSmith. The motion was approved unanimously with Chairman Brown and Commissioners Baggett, Grady, Gross, NeSmith, and Vonier voting aye. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.


Phillip V. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST:


Celeste C. Tyler, County Clerk