

Minutes  
Historic Courthouse, Board Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
225 North Board Street  
May 13, 2025

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:

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

Staff present: County Manager Mike Stephenson, Planning Director Ken Gay, Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert, Purchasing Agent Nisha Thurman, and County Clerk Tracy Dukes

Media present: Jill Holloway, Thomasville Times Enterprise

Others present: Pastor Harry Jones

**Meeting Proceedings:**

Chairman NeSmith opened the meeting. Pastor Harry Jones delivered the invocation.

**Actions Taken:**

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2025 Board Meeting. Commissioner Grady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Hickey who made a motion to approve the Agenda for the May 13, 2025 Board Meeting. Commissioner Grady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

**New Business:** Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the General Fund Budget Amendment 25-5-1. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

**2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT 25-5-1**  
**GENERAL FUND (100)**  
**May 13, 2025**

Account	Description	Original 2025 Budget	Amended Budget	Difference
<b>Expenses</b>				
100-1500-511100-000	Salaries-Commissioners Office	550,628	595,348	44,720
100-1500-512100-000	Group Insurance	110,000	121,000	11,000
100-1500-512200-000	Social Security	37,457	40,877	3,420
100-1505-511100-000	Salaries-Administrative Services	379,258	334,538	-44,720
100-1505-512100-000	Group Insurance	77,000	66,000	-11,000
100-1505-512200-000	Social Security	29,000	25,580	-3,420
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,183,343</b>	<b>1,183,343</b>	<b>0</b>
Net Increase to Expenses				

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Baggett who made a motion to approve the signing of the Windstream Amendment to Build agreement. Commissioner Jeremy Rich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

**Reports:** Chairman Nesmith recognized County Manager, Mike Stephenson, who noted an item on the agenda will be introduced by Zoning Administrator Donna Holbert and Planning Director Ken Gay. Conditional Use Zoning application #25-5-1 has been filed. Alicia Nicholson, Cambridge Assisted Living and Residential Care, Owner/Operator and Agent for the property owner, Witherspoon Properties, LLC, has applied for a conditional use zoning for property located at 464 Old Cassidy Road, Thomasville, Georgia. This property is located on Thomas County Map 055D, Parcel 038 and is classified as R-2 (Single Family Residential.) The request is for a conditional use zoning to allow the property to be used as a family personal care home for 2-6 people. If the application is approved, the zoning of the property will be R-2 C.U. (Conditional Use, Family Personal Care Home 2-6 people.) The Planning Staff recommends approval of this rezoning application.

**Committee Reports:** Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to ratify the purchase of diesel fuel for \$2.2226 per gallon on May 7, 2025, from Petroleum Products. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to award the bid to Coastal Plains for Roadside Spraying Chemicals for \$110,115. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

Public Works Roadside Spraying Chemicals

Bid due date: 5/2/2025 2:00 PM Annual Budget: \$200,170.01

		Coastal Plains	
QTY	Description	Unit Price	Extended Price
100	Element 4	\$ 40.00	\$ 4,000.00
10	Arsenal Power Line	\$ 66.00	\$ 660.00
300	Glyphosate (40% minimum)	\$ 13.50	\$ 4,050.00
400	AMS Extra	\$ 8.50	\$ 3 400.00
50	Esplanade 200SC	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 70,000.00
60	Defoamer	\$ 8.00	\$ 480.00
150	Surfactant 80/20	\$ 13.00	\$ 1,950.00
50	Rodeo	\$ 27.50	\$ 1,375.00
800	Monosodium Acid Methanearsonate 6 - pound active	\$ 30.25	\$ 24,200.00
Total Bid			\$ 110,115.00
Variation		NO	
Delivery Time		30 Days	

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to award the bid to Waterproofing Contractors Inc the painting contract of the Historic Courthouse for \$118,000. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Rich who recently returned from Washington D. C. Commissioner Rich reported the City of Thomasville recently lost a \$19 million dollar grant. Commissioner Rich met with the Office of the Chief of Staff, and they are working on an appeal to have the grant restored. Chairman NeSmith thanked Commissioner Rich for his efforts.

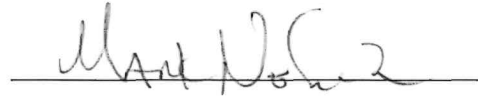
Chairman NeSmith recognized County Manager Mike Stephenson who presented a survey from the attendees of the 2025 Citizens Academy. Chairman NeSmith expressed appreciation for the feedback.

Chairman NeSmith recognized Commissioner Rich who made a motion to go into Closed Session. Commissioner Baggett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Grady who reminded everyone of the Emergency Services Committee Meeting May 20, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Hickey who reminded everyone of the Public Works Committee Meeting May 21, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Nesmith recognized Commissioner Vonier who made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Chairman NeSmith, Commissioners Baggett, Brown, Grady, Gross, Hickey, Rich and Vonier voting aye.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark NeSmith", written over a horizontal line.

Mark NeSmith, Chairman

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracy Dukes", written over a horizontal line.

Tracy Dukes, County Clerk