



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes of Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Evans Government Center Auditorium, Evans, Georgia**

Present at the meeting included:

Chairman Douglas R. Duncan, Jr.
Vice Chairman Alison G. Couch
Commissioner Connie M. Melear
Commissioner James E. Allen, III
Commissioner Michael W. Carraway
County Manager Scott Johnson
Deputy County Manager Matt Schlachter
Deputy County Manager Glenn Kennedy
County Attorney Chris Driver
County Clerk Patrice R. Crawley

Division Directors:

Scott Sterling – Planning Services
Paul Scarbary - Development Services
Chief Jeremy Wallen - Fire Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services

County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was given at the prior public hearing.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was held at the prior public hearing.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Chairman Duncan declared a quorum with five Commissioners present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) January 07, 2025

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the January 07, 2025 Board of Commissioners minutes as presented. Vice Chair Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Duncan presented the January 21, 2025 agenda.

G. SPECIAL RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND / OR DECLARATION

H. CONSENT AGENDA

In accordance with Columbia County Code of Ordinance Section 2-81(6), the following items were voted on collectively. Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vice Chair Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(H1) Management and Internal Services Committee

(H1a) The Appointment of Rick Toole to the Development Authority Board

Approved the appointment of Rick Toole to the Development Authority Board with the term ending December 31, 2025.

(H1b) Tax Commissioner Authorization to Receive Checks

Approved the authorization for the Tax Commissioner to receive checks.

(H1c) Reclassification of Position Number 303 Clerk V to Accountant IV for the Clerk of Court

Approved the reclassification of position number 303 Clerk V to Accountant IV Grade 21 at \$22.89 an hour for the Clerk of Court.

(H1d) Purchase of Column Lifts for Fleet Services from Heavy Duty Lift & Equipment, Inc.

Approved the purchase of column lifts for Fleet Services from Heavy Duty Lift & Equipment, Inc. in the

amount of \$64,362.69; 1011414.601081.

(H1e) Annual Approval of Bank Accounts

Approved the bank accounts as presented.

(H1f) Recipient-Subrecipient Agreement with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security for Hurricane Helene

Approved authorization for the Chairman to execute any agreement with Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security for funding reimbursement concerning Hurricane Helene.

(H2) Development and Planning Services Committee

(H2a) Change Order #001 with Goldmech Inc., for the HVAC Upgrades at Fleet Services

Approved Change Order Number 001 with Goldmech Inc. for the HVAC upgrades at Fleet Services with a deduction of \$90,000 and additional 224 days to the contract time.

(H2b) Award BID#2024028-BID3000 and Contract to R.D. Brown Contractors, Inc. for Patriots Park Gym Renovations

Approved the bid and contract with R.D. Brown Contractors, Inc. for Patriots Park Gym Renovations in the amount of \$1,498,900; 22450.32.015.

(H2c) Easement Encroachment Agreement for Tax Map 074H Parcel 456

Approved an Easement Encroachment Agreement for tax map 074H parcel 456.

(H2d) Easement Encroachment Agreement for Tax Map 051 Parcel 1526

Approved an Easement Encroachment Agreement for tax map 051 parcel 1526.

(H2e) Easement Encroachment Agreement Tax Map 066 Parcel 036D

Approved an Easement Encroachment Agreement for tax map 066 parcel 036D.

(H3) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(H3a) Independent Contractor Agreement with Evans Underground Boring and Utility, LLC for Storm Drainage Rehabilitation on Hardy McManus Rd

Approved an Independent Contractor Agreement with Evans Underground Boring and Utility, LLC. for storm drainage rehabilitation on Hardy McManus Road in the amount of \$65,520; 5215200.601100.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) New Business

(I1a) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I1a1) Ordinance Number 25-01 Amending Chapter 82 Traffic & Vehicles, Article III Parking, Division 4 Trailers, Recreational Vehicles, Inoperative Vehicles & Large Vehicles

Commissioner Allen made a motion to approve the First Reading of Ordinance Number 25-01 Amending Chapter 82, Article III, Division 4 of the Official Code of Columbia County. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. REQUESTS FOR REVIEW BY COMMITTEE

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Property

(M1a) Moving cost expenses to William & Jean Throneburg parcel 072A022.

Vice Chair Couch made a motion to approve \$140 moving cost expenses to William & Jean Throneburg parcel 072A022. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

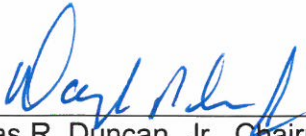
(M1b) Kalyn White parcel 060057 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm

Road widening project.

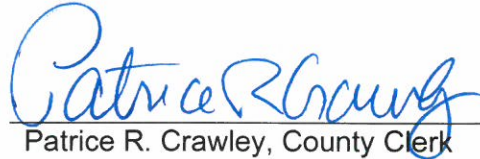
Vice Chair Couch made a motion to approve \$40,500 to Kalyn White parcel 060057 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road widening project. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Couch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Chairman



Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk