



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes of Tuesday, February 18, 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

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 7:43 p.m.

B. INVOCATION

The invocation was held at the previous public hearing.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Chairman Duncan declared a quorum with five commissioners present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) February 04, 2025 Commission

(E2) February 04, 2025 Public Hearing on HB581

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the February 04, 2025 Commission and February 04, 2025 Public Hearing minutes as presented. Vice Chair Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Duncan presented the 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 Allen made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(H1) Management and Internal Services Committee

(H1a) Canceling the April 08, 2025 Management & Internal Services and Development & Planning Services Committees

Approved canceling the April 08, 2025 Management & Internal Services and Development & Planning Services Committees.

(H1b) HMGP 4400-0025 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Recipient-Subrecipient Agreement with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Approved the HMGP 4400-0025 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Recipient-Subrecipient Agreement with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency.

(H1c) Reclassification of EMA Operations Manager Position to EMA Operations Specialist

Approved the reclassification of EMA Operations Manager position to EMA Operations Specialist VIII exempt, grade 25, annual salary \$48,859.20.

(H1d) Purchase of Storage Device from Mainline for Information Technology DR Site

Approved the purchase of storage device from Mainline for Information Technology DR site in the amount of \$150,200.93; 1011005.601081.

(H1e) ESRI Subscription Renewal

Approved the ESRI subscription renewal in the amount of \$170,000; 6516500.533035.

(H1f) Agreement with T-Mobile for County Camp Tower

Approved an agreement with T-Mobile for space on the County Camp Tower.

(H1g) Lease Agreement with Crown Castle for Tower Site

Approved a lease agreement with Crown Castle South, LLC for the tower site at 630 Ronald Reagan Drive.

(H2) Development and Planning Services Committee

(H2a) Change Order #001 with Shearer-Mutimer Construction for the Coroner's Office Renovation

Approved change order number 1 with Shearer-Mutimer Construction for the Coroner's Office renovation in the amount of \$78,398; 2302300.601076.23003.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) Unfinished 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 - *Second Reading*

Commissioner Allen made a motion to approve the Second 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.

(I1b) Community and Emergency Services Committee

(I1b1) Resolution 25-02 Amending the Parks and Recreation Facility Rental and Membership Fee Schedule -*Second Reading*

Commissioner Carraway made a motion to approve the second reading of Resolution 25-02 Amending the Parks and Recreation Facility Rental and Membership Fee Schedule. Vice Chair Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2) New Business

(I3) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. REQUESTS FOR REVIEW BY COMMITTEE

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

County Manager Johnson stated that the Board had approved for him to amend the "not to exceed amount" with Ceres on the current debris removal contract from Hurricane Helene. The new notice to proceed will be for not to exceed \$65 million.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Personnel

(M1a) Employment Contract with Erin Campbell

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve a contract with Erin Campbell to be effective pay period beginning February 09, 2025. Vice Chair Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

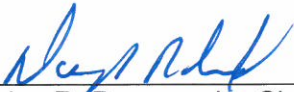
(M2) Property

(M2a) John & Sylvia Harmon parcel 067C002, Scott & Susan Skadan parcel 072B053, Frank & Pauline Pacheco parcel 072238, David Milford parcel 067015A, Norman & Judy Booker parcel 060028 and Dennis Kirkland parcel 060006, 060006A & 060006D to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm road widening project.

Vice Chair Couch made a motion to approve \$14,400 to John & Sylvia Harmon parcel 067C002, \$18,500 to Scott & Susan Skadan parcel 072B053, \$10,000 to Frank & Pauline Pacheco parcel 072238, \$19,500 to David Milford parcel 067015A, \$86,000 to Norman & Judy Booker parcel 060028 and \$30,300 to Dennis Kirkland parcel 060006, 060006A & 060006D 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 7:52 p.m. Commissioner Melear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Chairman



Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk