



**Community and Emergency Services Committee Meeting
Minutes for Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 8:30 AM
Evans Government Center Auditorium, Evans, Georgia**

Present at the meeting included:

Jim M. Steed, Chairman
Mike W. Carraway, Vice Chairman
Member Douglas R. Duncan, Jr.
Commissioner Connie Melear
Commissioner Alison G. Couch
County Manager Scott Johnson
Deputy County Manager Glenn Kennedy
Deputy County Manager Matt Schlachter
County Clerk Patrice R. Crawley
County Attorney Chris Driver

Division Directors:

Leanne Reece - Financial Services
Paul Scarbary - Development Services
Kyle Titus - Engineering Services
Scott Sterling - Planning Services
John Luton - Community Services
Stacey Gordon - Water Utility Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steed called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

B. INVOCATION

Chairman Steed gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

County Manager Johnson led the pledge to the American Flag.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Chairman Steed declared a quorum with three members of the committee present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) February 24, 2026

Member Duncan made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2026 Community and Emergency Services Committee meeting as presented. Vice Chair Carraway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Steed presented the agenda.

G. PRESENTATION

H. CONSENT AGENDA

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) New Business

(I1a) Community Services

(I1a1) Animal Services Donations

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda the donation of \$200 to Columbia County Animal Services for the medical care of shelter animals.

(I1a2) Lease with Columbia County Cares, Inc.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda the lease with Columbia County Cares, Inc.

(I1a3) Proclamation Observing May 1, 2026 as Loyalty Day

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Proclamation observing May 1, 2026 as Loyalty Day.

(I1a4) Contract Renewal Number 8 with Columbia County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Contract Renewal Number 8 with Columbia County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

(I1a5) Independent Contractor Agreement with Patricia Essick for the Senior Center Ceramics Instructor

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Independent Contractor Agreement with Patricia Essick for the Senior Center Ceramics Instructor.

(I1a6) Contract Agreement with Ignite Soccer Academy, LLC.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Contract Agreement with Ignite Soccer Academy, LLC.

(I1a7) Independent Contractor Agreement with Hain Tennis Academy, LLC

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda an Independent Contractor Agreement with Hain Tennis Academy, LLC.

(I1a8) Contract Renewal Number 3 with Petersburg Tennis Academy

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Contract Renewal Number 3 with Petersburg Tennis Academy.

(I1a9) Contract Renewal Number 5 with Professional Disc Golf Association Inc.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Contract Renewal Number 5 with Professional Disc Golf Association, Inc.

(I1a10) Contract Renewal Number 1 with Georgia Glamping Company, LLC

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Contract Renewal Number 1 with Georgia Glamping Company, LLC.

(I1a11) Contract Renewal Number 3 with Keg Creek Watersports LLC.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Contract Renewal Number 3 with Keg Creek Watersports, LLC.

(I1a12) Contract Renewal Number 4 with Savannah Rapids Kayak Rental for Bicycle Rental Service

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Contract Renewal Number 4 with Savannah Rapids Kayak Rental for bicycle rental service.

(I1a13) Canoe, Kayak and Paddle Board Rentals at Savannah Rapids and Wildwood Parks Concessionaire Agreement with Savannah Rapids Kayak Rental, LLC.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda Canoe, Kayak and

Paddle Board rentals at Savannah Rapids and Wildwood Parks Concessionaire Agreement with Savannah Rapids Kayak Rental, LLC.

(I1a14) Georgia Department of Transportation FY 2022 Surplus Vehicle #3568

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda the surplussing of vehicle Number 3568 back to Georgia Department of Transportation.

(I1a15) Georgia Department of Transportation FY2026 Transportation Trust Fund Program Application

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda the application and acceptance of the awarded grant for FY2026 from the Georgia Department of Transportation Trust Fund program in the amount of \$202,426.

(I1b) Fire and Emergency Services

(I1b1) Fire Services Automatic Aid Agreement with the City of Harlem, GA.

Approved forwarding to the April 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda the Fire Services Automatic Aid agreement with the City of Harlem.

(I1c) Other Committees

(I2) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. STAFF REPORTS

(K1) Fire and Emergency Services

(K1a) Fire Response Summary Report

Deputy Fire Chief Willis presented the Fire Response Summary Report.

(K1b) Fire Response Monthly Report

Deputy Fire Chief Willis presented the Fire Response Summary Report.

(K1c) Year to Date Budget Report

Deputy Fire Chief Willis presented the Fire Response Summary Report.

L. COMMISSIONERS' AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

N. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Steed adjourned the meeting at 8:43 a.m.


Jim M. Steed, Chairman


Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk