



**Community and Emergency Services Committee Meeting
Minutes for Tuesday, May 26, 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
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
Kyle Titus - Engineering Services
Scott Sterling - Planning Services
John Luton - Community Services
Chief Jeremy Wallen - Fire Services
Stacey Gordon - Water Utility Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. INVOCATION

Chair Steed gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

County Manager Johnson led the pledge to the American Flag.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

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

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) April 28, 2026

Member Duncan made a motion to approve the April 28, 2026 Community and Emergency Services Committee meeting as presented. Vice Chair Carraway seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Steed presented the agenda.

G. PRESENTATION

H. CONSENT AGENDA

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) New Business

(I1a) County Manager

(I1a1) The Naming of a County Park

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Debate Agenda the naming of a County Park.

(I1b) Community Services

(I1b1) Proclamation Recognizing the Anniversary of First Mount Moriah Baptist Church

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Proclamation recognizing the anniversary of First Mount Moriah Baptist Church.

(I1b2) Animal Services Donation

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda the donation of \$1,300 to Columbia County Animal Services for the medical care of shelter animals.

(I1b3) Independent Contractor Agreement with 1 to 4 Pickleball Services

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda an Independent Contractor Agreement with 1 to 4 Pickleball Services.

(I1b4) Library Services Agreement with the Columbia County Library System

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Library Services Agreement with the Columbia County Library System.

(I1b5) Memorandum of Understanding and Annual Financial Agreement with UGA Cooperative Extension for Personnel Salary Reimbursement for Fiscal Year 2027

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Memorandum of Understanding and Annual Financial Agreement with UGA Cooperative Extension for personnel salary reimbursement for Fiscal Year 2027 in the amount of \$246,888.50; 1011514.533035.

(I1c) Fire and Emergency Services

(I1c1) Contract with Gold Cross EMS for Emergency Medical Services

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Contract with Gold Cross EMS for Emergency Medical Services in the amount of \$2,350,000; 101.1315.

(I1c2) Blood Services Agreement with Sheppard Community Blood Center

Approved forwarding to the June 02, 2026 Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda a Blood Services Agreement with Sheppard Community Blood Center in the amount of \$6,000; 533035.

(I1d) Other Committees

(I2) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. STAFF REPORTS

(K1) Fire and Emergency Services

(K1a) Fire Response Summary Report

Chief Wallen presented the Fire Response Summary Report.

(K1b) Fire Response Monthly Report

Chief Wallen presented the Fire Response Monthly Report.

(K1c) Year to Date Budget Report

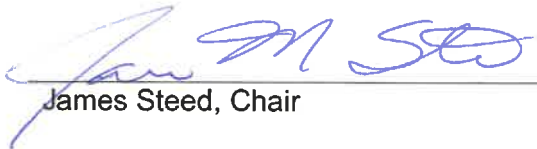
Chief Wallen presented the Fire Services Year to Date Budget Report.

L. COMMISSIONERS' AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

N. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Steed adjourned the meeting at 8:47 a.m.


James Steed, Chair


Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk