



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes of Tuesday, August 4, 2026 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 Jim M. Steed
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
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
Stacey Gordon - Water Utility Services
Steven Prather – Facility Services
County Staff

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Duncan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. INVOCATION

Commissioner Steed gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

County Manager Johnson led the pledge to the American Flag.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Chair Duncan declared a quorum with five Commissioners present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) July 21, 2026

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2026 Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Commissioner Steed seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair 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 Melear made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Steed seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(H1) Community and Emergency Services Committee

(H1a) Service Agreement with Augusta Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution

Approved a Service Agreement with Augusta Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

(H1b) Motorola P25 AIS 911 Recording System Agreement with Replay Systems, Inc.

Approved the Columbia County Sheriff's Office to enter into an agreement with Replay Systems, Inc for the purchase of the Motorola P25 911 Recording System in the amount of \$190,308.91.

(H1c) Amendment to the Columbia County Events Sponsorship and Advertising Agreement

Approved the amendment to the Columbia County Events Sponsorship and Advertising Agreement.

(H1d) CSRA Mustang Club Agreement for the Mustang Club of America National Show

Approved the CSRA Mustang Club agreement for the Mustang Club of America National Show.

(H1e) The Purchase of (40) Scott XD Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and (30) additional cylinders from American Safety and Firehouse

Approved the purchase of 40 Scott XD self-contained breathing apparatus and 30 additional cylinders from American Safety and Firehouse in the amount of \$378,463.70; 601081.

(H1f) The Purchase of ProtectIR and XplorIR Bundles from 908 Devices for the Hazardous Materials Response Team

Approved the purchase of ProtectIR and XplorIR Bundles from 908 Devices for the Hazardous Materials Response Team in the amount of \$128,355.50; 601081.

(H1g) Masters Services Agreement with RapidSOS, Inc. for IAmResponding Software

Approved the Masters Services Agreement with RapidSOS Inc. for IAmResponding software in the amount of \$889.10; 533035.

(H1h) Independent Contractor Agreement with Telemedicine Group for the HeartStart+ Cardiovascular & Metabolic Screening

Approved an Independent Contractor Agreement with Telemedicine Group for the HeartStart+ Cardiovascular & Metabolic Screening in the amount of \$80,000; 533035.

(H2) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(H2a) The Purchase of a New Mobile Generator for Fleet Services from Nixon Power Services

Approved the purchase of a new mobile generator for Fleet Services from Nixon Power Services in the amount of \$143,335; 3503550.601090.35565.

(H2b) Award Bid # 2026021-BID3289 and Contract to Coleman Construction, Inc. for the Construction of the Columbia County Emergency Back-up Generators

Approved awarding the bid and contract to Coleman Construction, Inc. for the construction of the Columbia County emergency back-up generators project in the amount of \$1,245,931; 3503550.601090.35565.

(H2c) Emergency Purchase from Augusta Chiller Services Inc. for the Boiler Replacement at Patriots Park Gym

Approved an emergency purchase from Augusta Chiller Services, Inc. for the boiler replacement at Patriots Park Gym in the amount of \$73,958.68; 28210.38.090.

(H2d) Award Bid # 2026020-BID3289 and Contract to Duckworth Development for the Renovation of Building G1 - Department of Revenue

Approved awarding the bid and contract to Duckworth Development for the renovation of Building G1 - Department of Revenue in the amount of \$529,210; 3503550.601090.35563.

(H2e) Southern Flow Nozomi Yearly License Renewal 2026

Approved the Southern Flow Nozomi yearly license renewal for 2026 in the amount of \$41,412; 511.5105.533035.

(H2f) Independent Contractor Agreement with Bluewater Engineering Services, LLC. for the Sawdust Rd to Old Louisville Rd 12" Waterline Project E&S Inspections and Monitoring

Approved an Independent Contractor Agreement with Bluewater Engineering Services, LLC. for the Sawdust Road to Old Louisville Road 12" waterline project E&S inspections and monitoring in the amount of \$15,000; 58037.39.015.685.

(H2g) A Purchase from Gerald Jones Ford for a Half Ton Four-Wheel Truck to Replace Shop Number 2201

Approved a purchase from Gerald Jones Ford for a half ton four-wheel truck in the amount of \$55,000; 511.5140.601079.

(H2h) Adding a Cell Phone Allowance to Position Numbers 91 Manager II NE and 1616 Manager II NE

Approved adding a cell phone allowance in the amount of \$720 to position numbers 91 and 1616 Manager II NE.

(H2i) Water Utility Pump Maintenance Agreement with Goforth Williamson Inc.

Approved a Water Utility pump maintenance agreement with Goforth Williamson Inc in the amount of \$400,000; 511.5105.533064.

(H2j) Emergency Chemical Spill Cleanup by Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc

Approved an emergency chemical spill cleanup by Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. in the amount of \$237,638.85; 511.5000.544007.

(H2k) Amendment to the Project Access Improvements (PAI) Manual

Approved amendment to the Project Access Improvements (PAI) manual.

(H2l) Designation of the Stormwater Compliance Department Manager as a US EPA Signatory Authority & Alternative Designated Representative

Approved the designation of the Stormwater Compliance Department Manager as a US EPA signatory authority and alternative designated representative.

(H2m) Change Order Number 1 to Contract #2026-3469 with Cajenn Construction & Rehabilitation Services for the 2026 Storm Water UV Lining Projects

Approved change order number one with Cajenn Construction and Rehabilitation Services for the 2026 Storm Water UV lining projects.

(H2n) Contract #2026-3610 with Southern Civil Solutions for Engineering Services Related to the Ridge Crossing Storm Drain UV Lining Rehabilitation Project

Approved an Independent Contract with Southern Civil Solutions for engineering services related to the Ridge Crossing Storm Drain UV Lining Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$15,000; 5215200.601100.

(H2o) Supplemental Agreement Number 1 to the Project Framework Agreement with GDOT for the Washington Rd Widening Project, PI# 0021250

Approved the Supplemental Agreement Number One to the Project Framework Agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for the Washington Road widening project.

(H2p) Acceptance of Easements and Associated Stormwater Infrastructure from Tillery Park Homeowners Association, Inc

Approved the acceptance of easements and associated stormwater infrastructure from Tillery Park Homeowners Association, Inc. as shown on the plat from H&C Surveying, Inc. dated June 02, 2026.

(H2q) Acceptance of Easements and Associated Water & Sanitary Utility Infrastructure from Edgar Hughston Builders, Inc.

Approved the acceptance of easements and associated water and sewer utility infrastructure from Edgar Hughston Builders, Inc. as shown on the plat from James G. Swift and Associates dated May 25, 2026 known as Hamilton Grove Subdivision Phase 1.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) New Business

(I1a) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I1a1) VA26-07-02, Variance to Section 90-53 List of lot and Structure Requirements, 228 Applecross Drive, Tax Map 083 Parcel 046, 0.7 +/- acres, and currently zoned A-R (Apartment Residential) and Easement Encroachment Agreement.

Commissioner Melear made a motion to approve the request for the variance to section 90-53 for property located at tax map 083 parcel 046 and the associated encroachment agreement to reduce the side and rear setbacks for a proposed single-family residence. Commissioner Carraway 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

(L1) Jeffrey Holder, Cambrey Wood, Lee Muns and Blane Carter

Cambrey Wood requested a moratorium on data center development.

Lee Muns requested a resolution concerning nondisclosure agreements and confidentiality agreements involving Columbia County government.

Blane Carter stated his concerns about the Tax Assessment notice.

Jeffrey Holder had questions concerning HB439.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Property

(M1a) Vickie Dye parcel 042 211 for additional permanent easement for the Euchee Creek Interceptor project

Commissioner Carraway made a motion to approve \$1,850 to Vickie Dye parcel 042 211 for additional permanent easement for the Euchee Creek Interceptor project. Vice Chair Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Couch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. Chair Duncan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Chairman



Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk