

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE**

Appling County Board of Commissioners held the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at 5:30 PM in the Commissioners' meeting room of the Courthouse Annex.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Leslie Burch and he welcomed all those in attendance. Commissioner Randy Sellers gave the invocation and Commissioner Ricky Barnes led the group in the pledge. Present were Chairman Leslie Burch; Vice Chairman Chad Kent; Commissioners Randy Sellers, Jakharis Jones, Daryl Edwards and Ricky Barnes. Also, present were County Manager Reid Lovett, County Attorney Tracy Brown and County Clerk Robyn Evans.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No changes were made to the agenda; Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the following meetings were reviewed with a minor change to Item G, reflecting who gave the approval; Regular Meeting March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Called Meetings February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and Called Meeting March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**

**Local State of Emergency Extension**

County Manager Lovett recommended the local proclamation reflect the same date as the extension approved by GEMA through May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

**FY'26 Annual UGA/Appling Co. Financial Agreement**

County Manager Lovett presented the Annual Financial Agreement from the UGA Extension office for the County's proportionate share of salaries. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve as presented; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

**Live Streaming Equipment**

County Manager Lovett discussed his findings in regards to equipment for live streaming the meetings. He stated the equipment costs will total \$1029.00 for three cameras and two tri-pods. Discussion was held in regards to parental consent if minor children were in attendance and what platform would be utilized to stream. County Manager Lovett shared that research would be gathered in regards to under age participants and that most likely You-Tube and Facebook would be used to stream. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve the purchase; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

County Manager Lovett shared several updates with the board as follows.

**FEMA/GEMA Extension Granted**

Lovett shared that his request for an extension on the debris had been granted, through May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for debris removal.

### The Baxley and Appling County Hospital Authority Board Member Terms Expiring

Lovett shared that he'd been notified of two County seats set to expire on July 31, 2025; Mrs. Cindy Tomberlin was not willing to serve another term and there is also a vacant seat up for County nominations. He asked the Board of Commissioners to begin thinking about nominations to fill these seats.

### County Pay Scale

County Manager Lovett shared that he is working on a new Salary Plan for the County, as the one currently being utilized has not been updated since 1994. He advised the Board that a draft copy was placed in their meeting packets, but a final copy for their review will be available at the next meeting.

### DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Lovett shared that the striping project would begin soon and annual clipping of the shoulders are being done to keep water off of the highways, so drivers will not hydroplane. He advised the Board that the landfill is one quarter full, at the cell site opened last month, due to excessive storm debris; looking at proceeding with opening more cells. Lovett shared that recreation activities were in full swing with baseball, softball, swim, track, tennis and golf.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to close regular session and enter into executive session; seconded by Commissioner Sellers; unanimously approved.

Commissioner Kent made a motion to close executive session and re-enter regular session; seconded by Commissioner Barnes; unanimously approved.

County Attorney Brown shared the following items discussed and the need for discussion and approval by the Board.

Approval for the County to participate and fund their pro-rata share of a financial audit regarding District Attorney Keith Higgins's office; also, to allow Chairman Burch to sign related documents. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

Recommendation to retroactively approve Geri Dicker for the position of Human Resources Specialist, effective January 1, 2025. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve the lateral transfer; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

Recommendation to approve a 5% increase in the salary of Carol Weaver, Road Superintendent, due to added responsibilities. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

A request was made to change the regular May meeting from Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> due to a conflict. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

### COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Lovett shared that he and several others met with groups of ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) graders and discussed governmental processes and being good citizens. He advised the Board that an updated financial snap-shot was provided in their packets. Carrie Vanderver gave updates for the Extension Services. Lovett stated that 987,000 cubic yards of debris have been picked up thus far.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

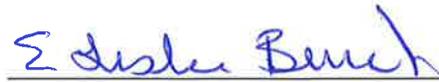
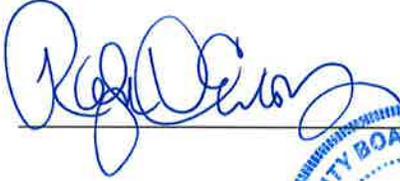
Chairman Burch allowed Wayne Canady to ask how much would the financial audit costs be for the item approved above. Attorney Brown stated between \$3903 and up to \$5855. Burch reminded everyone about the Young Farmers Tractor Pull the following weekend.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk

Leslie Burch, Chairman



**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE**

The Appling County Board of Commissioners held a call meeting on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:30 PM in the Commissioners' meeting room of the Courthouse Annex.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Leslie Burch and he welcomed all those in attendance. Commissioner Daryl Edwards gave the invocation and Commissioner Jakharis Jones led the group in the pledge. Present were Chairman Leslie Burch; Vice Chairman Chad Kent; Commissioners Randy Sellers, Jakharis Jones, Daryl Edwards and Ricky Barnes. Also, present were County Manager Reid Lovett, County Attorney Tracy Brown and County Clerk Robyn Evans.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

Commissioner Sellers made a motion to close regular session and enter into executive session; seconded by Commissioner Jones; unanimously approved.

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to close executive session and re-enter regular session; seconded by Commissioner Barnes; unanimously approved.

County Manager Lovett shared the following was discussed and needed Board approval.

Acceptance of resignation by Shonda Carter as Chief Registrar. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to accept; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

Appointment of Sandy Dominy as Interim Chief Registrar. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

Allow Chairman Burch authority to contract/pay Dominion for Technical Services for on-site Logic and Accuracy Testing and Certification, quoted at \$9350.00 and for Election Day Supervision. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

Authorization to post Elections Supervisor/Chief Registrar vacancy until filled. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk

Leslie Burch, Chairman

