

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.**

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

Appling County Board of Commissioners held the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</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**

Changes to the agenda included adding items: Report from Hospital and Pineland Lease Renewal. These changes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Sellers; seconded by Commissioner Jones; unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the regular monthly meeting, May 8, 2025 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Kent; second by Commissioner Barnes; and unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**

Shannah Martin, CEO, and Robin Crosby, CFO, of Appling Healthcare spoke first, giving the Board an update regarding the hospital. They shared the hospital was in much better shape than previously anticipated and numbers are up from receiving collections, careful spending, and leveraging more grant monies.

**A. Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Resolution & Agreement**

County Manager Lovett shared that the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) contract and Resolution from the GA Department of Transportation were included in the board packets. This project is for Satilla Church Road and Ten Mile Road and will be posted for bids around August. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to allow the Chairman to sign said contract and resolution for the County; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

**B. 2025 Property & Liability Renewal Proposal**

County Manager Lovett shared with the Board that he'd received a renewal for the 2025 Property and Liability Insurance in the amount of \$499,249. He shared this was an increase of about \$60,000 from the previous year but the County was credited \$25,018 for a Safety Credit and he plans to meet with the Sheriff's Department and Public Works in August to introduce the safety plans. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve the renewal invoice; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

**C. SPLOST Firetruck Purchase**

Discussion was held in regards to purchase of a 2020 International MV607 Box Truck to be changed out for Firetruck. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the purchase in the amount of \$35,000, after professional inspection; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

**D. Set FY'2026 Budget Workshop Date**

County Manager Lovett shared that a date needed to be set for the first budget workshop. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve a scheduled FY'26 Budget Workshop date of June 24, 2025 at 5:30 PM; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

E. Expiring Board Appointments

County Manager Lovett shared the Hospital Authority Board had one (1) seat expiring – Perry White, whom wished to serve again; and Cindy Tomberlin’s seat, as she did *not* want to serve again. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve another term for Mr. White; seconded by Commissioner Jones; unanimously approved.

For the seat held by Cindy Tomberlin, Commissioner Sellers nominated Judy Aycock; Commissioner Edwards nominated Takeisha Jones; Chairman Burch nominated Keith Davis. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve all nominations; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

F. Revised Job Descriptions

As a continuation of updating and approving job descriptions, the following were reviewed for Public Works and Fleet Management (County Shop).

- \*Administrative Assistant
- \*Road Maintenance Worker
- \*Truck Driver
- \*Equipment Operator I, II, & III
- \*Road Maintenance Technician
- \*Fleet Maintenance Director
- \*Mechanic I, II, & III

Public Works Director was included but not approved due to necessary changes. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve all reviewed job descriptions; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

G. Partnership w/Silver Sneakers

County Manager Lovett shared that Silver Sneakers representatives sent a contract proposal to the Recreation Director McGuirt, in regards to a partnership for services at the Aquatic Center. The program is offered through Medicare Advantage, as a fitness membership available for 65 and older adults and would be of no cost to the County. The partnership is also offered by various gyms in the County. Lovett stated the contract is currently being reviewed by Attorney Brown and no action is required at this time.

H. Landfill Project

County Manager Lovett shared that a recent audit by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) revealed that the County Landfill needs eight (8) more methane monitoring wells to be in compliance. The costs to add these will be \$37,312. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

Lovett also shared the need of expanding the landfill to create more cells. He stated there is 28 acres of timber that needs to be cut in order to expand; that staff were currently hauling dirt but they need room to cover. He requested bids for cutting timber but only one was received, Miles Brothers Timber. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

I. Telecommunications Antenna Ten Mile Station

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of an antenna/100 ft. tower on Ten Mile Road, which was approved by the Board in April 2024 but never purchased. Lovett suggested a stand-alone tower with foot print on County property and would like to rectify this issue. No action was taken.

J. Pineland Lease Renewal

County Manager Lovett shared the annual lease agreement with Pineland BHDD was presented for review. The rental agreement remains the same in the amount of \$2300/month. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Lovett allowed Recreation Director McGuirt speak for recreation: stating that Appling County will be hosting 8U and 10U Girls' Softball District Tournaments and 12U Boys Baseball State Tournament. Lovett shared that extension services were steadily growing with increase participation numbers (copy of their report is included in the Commissioners' packets). He mentioned the County Landfill just completed another Scrap Tire Event utilizing grant funds and had 49.7 tons of tires received.

County Manager Lovett shared the Road Department has a lot happening with a lot of rain and has been working on Morris Landing Road and also getting various dirt roads built-up and graded on a monthly basis. He stated there's five (5) graders, one for each district.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

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

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

Lovett reminded the Board that portions of the 2024 SPLOST monies were designated for a new Law Complex and suggested an Advisory Committee to examine the needs and requirements for judicial law usage and court proceedings before plans to complete the project commenced. Commissioners indicated the following positions should be on the board:

- \*Clerk of Court, Marsha Thomas
- \*Magistrate Court Judge, Ronnie Lewis
- \*Coroner, Henry Jones
- \*Superior Court Judge, Stephen Kelly
- \*Probate Court Judge, Gretchen Bailey
- \*Sheriff, Mark Melton
- \*County Manager, Reid Lovett
- \*Vice Chairman BOC, Chad Kent.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the members of said Advisory Committee; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

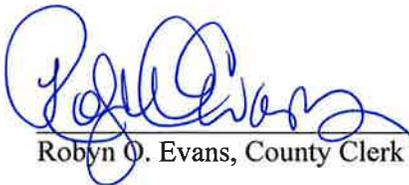
County Manager Lovett shared the current financial report was included in the Commissioners' packets. He also stated that roadwork continued daily and Holmesville should be complete soon; Lake Mayers Road began yesterday; and TIA projects will be bid in August. He also shared that the County should be receiving half of the FEMA reimbursement monies soon. He reminded everyone about the Farm Tour with Chamber. Lovett also mentioned that the he, the City Manager, Hospital representative, and Chamber Director were planning to attend a retreat in Valdosta the following week to formulate community plans.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

  
Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk

  
Leslie Burch, Chairman

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.**

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

Appling County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Tuesday, June 24<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 Randy Sellers gave the invocation and Vice Chairman Chad Kent 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**

The agenda was approved with no changes on a motion by Commissioner Edwards; seconded by Commissioner Sellers; unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS**

**A. FY'2024 Audit Report**

Campbell O'Steen, CPA with Harris and Company, LLC. (Auditing Firm) thanked the Board for allowing the company to continue providing services to Appling County. He referenced the audit report given to each Commissioner, when giving a summary of the FY'2024 Audit Results.

Mr. O'Steen stated the total government revenues include almost all monies received by the County, including SPLOST, T-SPLOST, taxes, etc. Expenses increase such as capital projects being completed, which increased the capitol assets. He reminded the Board that Budget Amendments should be completed throughout the fiscal year as large revenues are received, and stated all-in-all Appling County looks good from a financial standpoint.

**B. Review FY'26 Proposed County Budget**

County Manager Lovett utilized the large media screens to show his proposal for the upcoming year's budget. He went through each department highlighting various cost savings and increases. A future date will be set for a budget workshop.

**C. Board Appointments**

**Nominations for Appling County Hospital Authority Board**

During the June 3, 2025 meeting, the Board approved Perry White to serve an additional term. However, two more names were not nominated for this seat. To rectify this, Commissioner Kent nominated Jimmy Twiggs and Chairman Burch nominated Kathy Mitchell. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve all three nominees; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

**Appling County Department of Family & Children Services Board**

Shared with the Board, Mr. Carlos Rooks' seat was expiring and he wishes to serve again; Mr. Jimmy McMillian was asked to be replaced due to absenteeism. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve Amy Redigar to take the place of Mr. Millian; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to reappoint Mr. Rooks; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

**D. Pineland Lease Renewal**

County Manager Lovett shared that this lease was for the Appling/Jeff Davis Service Center, also known as The Sunshine Center, and under the umbrella of Pineland BHDD. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

E. FY' 25-26 Public Defender Contract

County Manager Lovett shared the Public Defender Contract proposal received, was increased from last year, but appeared to be in salaries for staff providing State required indigent services. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

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

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

County Manager Lovett shared that he'd received notice from Appling Board of Elections with a recommendation to hire Sandy Dominy as Elections Supervisor. After discussion, he suggested annual salary of \$50,562.19 for this position. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept this recommendation; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved. Lovett suggested an increase in hourly pay for Crystal Blaine to \$16.61/hour for added responsibilities in filling in should Mrs. Dominy be absent. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve this increase; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

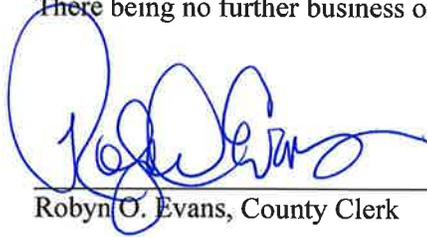
County Manager Lovett read a letter he'd received from Mrs. Dominy in regards to a successful election on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and she thanked the Board and other staff for their assistance. Runoff election will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.



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Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk



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Leslie Burch, Chairman