

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 2nd, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Appling County Board of Commissioners held the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 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. Jonathon Mann 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

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting on November 4th, 2025 and the called meeting on November 18, 2025.

PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL GUESTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Appling Co. Parks & Recreation – Award

Steve Card, President of the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association (GRPA), was present to announce an award for the Appling County Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Card stated that his office received over 230 applications for consideration of Agency of the Year award – sharing that Appling County has shown tremendous growth in leadership and serving the community. Their resilience and adaptability have been remarkable, siting an example of creating the new program – Amazing Appling Athletes. Mr. Card shared that Appling Recreation is not only active in our local community but very active in regional and state GRPA activities, as well. He announced that Appling County Parks and Recreation was the worthy recipient of GRPA's Agency of the Year award.

Appling Healthcare System – Financial Update

Shanna Martin and Robin Crosby were present to give an update from Appling Healthcare System.

NEW BUSINESS

Adopt Resolution 2026 County Maintenance and Operation Millage Rate & Tax Levy

County Manager Lovett shared the rate and levy for County Maintenance and operations will be 10.943 mills, resulting in \$16,863,047.00 in taxes to be levied. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve the rate and levy; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

Adopt Resolution 2026 County Fire & Rescue Millage Rate & Tax Levy

County Manager Lovett shared the rate and levy for County Fire and Rescue opera will be 0.47 mills, resulting in \$724,265.00 in taxes to be levied. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve the rate and levy; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

Adopt Resolution – 2026 County Election Qualifying Fees

Lovett read aloud, the qualifying fees to be set for the upcoming election, for the following positions.

Chairman, Board of Commissioners	\$ 324.00
Board of Commissioner, District 1	\$ 288.00
Board of Commissioner, District 3	\$ 288.00
Board of Education, District 1	\$ 420.00
Board of Education, District 3	\$ 420.00
State Court Judge	\$1752.46
State Court Solicitor	\$1441.09
Magistrate Court Judge	\$1693.55

Commissioner Sellers made a motion to adopt the qualifying fees as presented; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

2026 Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) Bid Award

County Manager Lovett shared the recent bid for projects on Russell Road, Dyal School Road, and Asbury Church Road has closed. The lowest bid received was from Georgia Asphalt Producers, Inc. in the amount of \$1,860,131.45. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the lowest bid award; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

Approval of Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Application

County Manager Lovett shared the application from Appling Development Authority, stating funding is received from the state, allowing local businesses to develop or increase development in the County. If the monies are not utilized, it must be returned to the state. Harbor Fab, LLC, a metals fabrication and installation company, is requesting to borrow \$250,000 from these funds. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the Revolving Loan Fund for the requested amount; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

Approval to Drain Lake Mayers for Maintenance & Repairs

Lovett shared the need to drain Lake Mayers so owners could repair docks, adding that it would also help with algae. If approved, they will rent a pump and begin in approximately one week and drainage will take a minimum of one month. Commissioner Barnes shared the County was also doing repairs to the public areas of the Lake. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to approve the drainage, Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

Heart of Georgia Regional Council Member – Annual Appointment

Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission Board appointment was postponed until the January meeting on a motion by Commissioner Edwards; seconded by Commissioner Kent; unanimously approved.

Various County Appointed Boards/Authorities w/Expiring Terms

Lovett shared that the Appling County Board of Assessors had one member expiring, currently held by David Eason, and that he is willing to serve another term. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve this term renewal, Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

Lovett shared the seat held by the County on the Development Authority Board is reappointed every calendar year. This position is currently held by Commissioner Daryl Edwards and he expressed wishes to serve again. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

Lovett mentioned the Board of Health County representative has been held by Commissioner Edwards for several years. O.C.G.A. guidelines state the Chairman, will serve on this Board and Chairman Burch stated he'd like to serve in this role. No vote was necessary for this appointment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None held.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Lovett shared how proud he was of the Recreation Department and the overwhelming increase in participants. Lovett shared thanks to Public Works department for everything they've been doing; hauling sand and helping DNR, Department of Natural Resources, with the dock at Carter's Bight. Lovett stated new software had been installed at the Road Department and Carroll Weaver, Road Superintendent expressed how well it's working and was much needed.

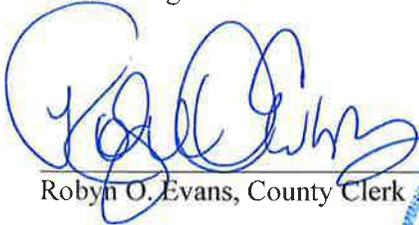
Chanda Teston, representing the Chamber of Commerce, announcing a Community Planning meeting at the Ag Center on 12/03/2025 from 8:00AM to Noon.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Burch reminded the Board of the First Responder's dinner to be held at the Ag Center and thanked all those in attendance for the last meeting of the year.

ADJOURN

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.


Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk




Leslie Burch, Chairman