

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 12th , 2026 @ 5:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Appling County Board of Commissioners held the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 12th , 2026 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 Edwards gave the invocation and Commissioner 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.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

With the addition of the following items (E – Deen's Landing Agreement; F – Teresa Hall's Retirement; G – Lake Chapel Church Road (SPLOST)), Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

PRESENTATIONS/SPECIAL GUEST(S)/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Baxley-Appling County Hospital Authority Board Seats Expiring

The following candidates were nominated as stated below.

Commissioner Edwards.....	Melissa Hartley (Incumbent)
Commissioner Sellers.....	Judy Aycock
Commissioner Kent.....	Knicole Lee
Commissioner Barnes.....	Cameron Mayers
Chairman Burch.....	Roy Fannin, Jr.
Chairman Burch.....	Linton DeLoach

Commissioner Kent made a motion to accept all nominees for the two (2) County seats expiring; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

Appling County Property- Rental Agreements

County Attorney Brown provided a revised rental agreement for the Commissioners' board packets. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to adopt the new guidelines but to continue current rates for now; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

2026 Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG), Local Road Assistance (LRA) Projects

County Manager Lovett read a list of roads to be included in this project. Commissioner Barnes made a motion to accept and proceed with the list; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

Ambulance Request Update

Lovett referenced a previous approval to purchase an ambulance for the Baxley Appling County Hospital Authority, noting there would be a significant delay before receiving the ambulance. However, another one has been identified and is present on the lot. Lovett stated requested approval to amend the budget and allow for this purchase; stating there is a difference in the price since this ambulance is smaller. There will also be additional costs associated with the equipment, graphics, and brush guard. Previously approved amount was \$319,000 and the total costs for the new ambulance should come in under this total. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

Ford Street Abandonment

County Attorney Tracy Brown stated that a public hearing was held prior to this meeting, regarding the closure of Ford Street. The decision to close was tabled until the regular meeting. After discussion, Commissioner Sellers made a motion to table the vote until Road Superintendent Carroll Weaver could obtain more information; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

Ten Mile Fire Truck Replacement – SPLOST

Lovett shared that it was time for Ten Mile Fire Department to replace one of their firetrucks, budgeted as a SPLOST item. One has been located to convert and a tank is being built for an approximate cost of \$37,500. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the purchase; Commissioner Jones seconded; unanimously approved.

Deen's Landing

Lovett shared that he'd received a lease agreement from Georgia Department of Natural Resources for "Boat Ramp Operation and Maintenance" at Deen's Landing. Commissioner Kent made a motion to approve the agreement; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

Teresa Hall Retirement

Lovett shared that he'd received a request from UGA/Appling Extension Services Agent, Carrie Vanderver. This request was approval to hire Teresa Hall back, on a part-time basis at \$28.47/hour, after her official retirement date of May 31, 2026. The purpose would be to fill the vacancy until advertising, hiring, and on-boarding of a new person for the position; beginning July 1, 2026 thru September 1, 2026. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve this request; Commissioner Barnes seconded; unanimously approved.

SPLOST – Lake Chapel Church Road

Lovett shared the bids for 2024 SPLOST Phase 2A project, for micro-surfacing on Lake Chapel Church Road, were received and the lowest bid was from Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$651,107.24. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

PUBLIC INPUT

Joe Dykstra – Stray/Wild Dogs

Mr. Dykstra addressed the Board regarding the issue with stray dogs. He stated he's still concerned that enough is not being done, offered his help, and has given them a plan that won't cost taxpayers. Discussion was held and County Attorney Brown stated Appling County does not have an animal shelter but will comply with the state law until the new budget cycle and determine if, or if not, they will have one in the future.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Lovett reminded those in attendance, about the groundbreaking for the new Road Department/County Shop facility, being paid for with 2018 SPLOST funds.

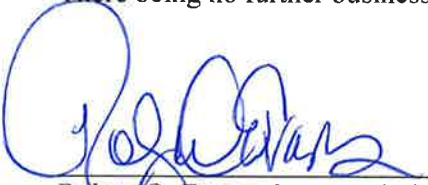
CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Burch thanked Commissioner Jones and his church for hosting a first responder appreciation event. He then gave time to Chanda Teston, whom announced the 4th of July celebration and fireworks, with waterslides, inflatables, etc.

Chairman Burch also shared that the Landfill has announced a Tire Collection Event for May 18-22, 2026; households can dispose up to ten (10) tires per household. He also thanked the election candidates present and reminded everyone to go to the polls and cast their votes on May 19, 2026.

ADJOURN

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.



Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk



Leslie Burch, Chairman

COUNTY SEAL



**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING MINUTES Public Hearing Animal Ordinance
May 12th , 2026 @ 5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Appling County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Tuesday, May 12th , 2026 at 5:00 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 Sellers gave the invocation and Jamie Gardner 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.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

Public Hearing – Proposed Animal Control Regulations Ordinance

County Attorney Tracy Brown read aloud the "Rules for Public Speaking".

Joe Dykstra spoke to the Board, stating he appreciated the work that the Commissioners had done but the published Animal Ordinance was missing a lot of information. He recommended a Citizen Committee be created to allow input on the ordinance that would not place the burden on the citizens. He also stated the ordinance did not cover "stray dogs", which he brought to the Board in November.

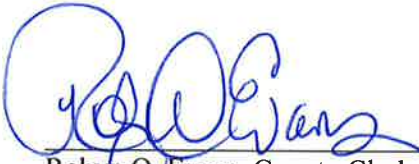
No one else in attendance elected to speak and no further comments.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

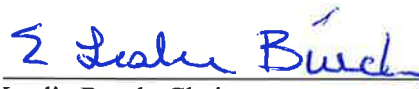
None at this time.

ADJOURN

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM.



Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk



Leslie Burch, Chairman

COUNTY SEAL



**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING MINUTES Public Hearing Road Closure
May 12th , 2026 @ 4:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Appling County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Tuesday, May 12th , 2026 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. Mr. Joe Taylor gave the invocation and Mrs. Dedra Hewitt 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.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

Public Hearing – Proposed Abandonment of Ford Street

County Attorney Tracy Brown read aloud the "Rules for Public Speaking" and stated there was thirty minutes allocated for anyone wishing to speak.

Melanie Jackson asked to speak first, stating the road should be closed after her home to allow access by emergency personnel, as she has her special-needs grandson lives with her.

Kenneth Reynolds spoke, stating that closing where Ms. Jackson requested will defeat the purpose of the road closure; and that Ms. Jackson has a gooseneck trailer (which can't be removed), partially in the road. He states the road has not been maintained by the County in several years. Mr. Reynolds states that he plans to put a fence on the current roadway, on land lines, to separate property.

Discussion was held in regards to the best resolution for all parties.

Commissioner Sellers made a motion to table this subject until further information could be obtained; Commissioner Kent seconded; unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 PM.



Robyn O. Evans, County Clerk



Leslie Burch, Chairman

COUNTY SEAL

