

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lee Hearn, Chairman
Edward Gibbons, Vice Chairman
Eric K. Maxwell
Charles D. Rousseau
Charles W. Oddo



FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Dennis A. Davenport, County Attorney
Tameca P. Smith, County Clerk
Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk

140 Stonewall Avenue West
Public Meeting Room
Fayetteville, GA 30214



MINUTES

July 9, 2026
5:00 p.m.

Welcome to the meeting of your Fayette County Board of Commissioners. Your participation in County government is appreciated. All regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

OFFICIAL SESSION:

Call to Order

Chairman Lee Hearn called the July 9, 2026, Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. Commissioner Eric Maxwell was absent.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Chairman Lee Hearn

Chairman Lee Hearn gave the Invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Charles Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION: None

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Speakers will be given a five (5) minute maximum time limit to speak before the Board of Commissioners about various topics, issues, and concerns. Speakers must direct comments to the Board. Responses are reserved at the discretion of the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

1. **Approval of a recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Commissioners Lee Hearn and Eric Maxwell to nominate Marie Parker, Shaneka McClarty, Dr., Lindsey Cofer and Boris Thomas to the Fayette County Hospital Authority for consideration of appointment to serve a term beginning June 1, 2026 and expires May 31, 2030.**

2. **Approval of a recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Commissioners Lee Hearn and Eric Maxwell to nominate James Oliver, Therol Brown and Robert D. Burcher, Jr. to the Fayette County Hospital Authority for consideration of appointment to serve a term beginning June 1, 2026 and expires May 31, 2030.**
3. **Approval for Fire & Emergency Services to surplus all end-of-service Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs), donate 25 surplus units to Pike County Emergency Services, donate 20 surplus units to Harris County High School Fire & Emergency Services Training Program, and auction the remaining surplus units and associated components.**
4. **Approval of the June 25, 2026, Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.**

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

5. **Request to approve Contract 26054-P; Change Order 2 for construction of the Phase II Animal Shelter Project by MEJA Construction Inc. for \$1,534,031.00 for a contract total of \$3,372,266.00.**

Public Works Director, Phil Mallon, stated that this item involved next steps in the construction of the Phase II Animal Shelter Project. He stated that The Fayette County Animal Shelter Phase II project had completed the design phase and was approaching the construction phase. MEJA was appointed as Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) at the January 22nd Board of Commissioners meeting. He noted that the initial contract amount of \$292,500 for MEJA was increased by Change Order 1 in the sum of \$1,545,735 at the May 28, 2026 meeting. Mr. Mallon advised that the item before the Board was approval of Change Order 2 which would increase the contract amount by \$1,534,031.00 for a contract total of \$3,372,266.00.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve Contract 26054-P; Change Order 2 for construction of the Phase II Animal Shelter Project by MEJA Construction Inc. for \$1,534,031.00 for a contract total of \$3,372,266.00. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

6. **Consideration of the nomination from the Fayette County Republican Party to appoint Andrew Rose to the Fayette County Board of Elections for a term beginning immediately and expiring January 31, 2028.**

County Administrator Steve Rapson stated that in May of 2026 the Governor signed House Bill 15657, revising the composition of the Fayette County Board of Elections. The new bill recreates the board into a five-member board, instead of three. The committee membership would be established accordingly: (1) Two members shall be appointed from a list of nominees provided by the chairperson of the county executive committee of the political party whose candidates at the last preceding general election received the largest number of votes in this state for members of the General Assembly; and (2) Two members shall be appointed from a list of nominees provided by the chairperson of the county executive committee of the political party whose candidates at such election received the next largest number of votes. Mr. Rapson stated that before the Board was the nomination from the Fayette County Republican Party to appoint Andrew Rose to the Fayette County Board of Elections for a term beginning immediately and expiring January 31, 2028.

Commissioner Oddo moved approve the nomination from the Fayette County Republican Party to appoint Andrew Rose to the Fayette County Board of Elections for a term beginning immediately and expiring January 31, 2028. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

7. **Consideration of the nomination from the Fayette County Democratic Party to appoint Kellie Hooper to the Fayette County Board of Elections for a term beginning immediately and expiring January 31, 2028.**

Mr. Rapson stated that this request was similar to the previous item but was the nomination from the Fayette County Democratic Party to appoint Kellie Hooper to the Fayette County Board of Elections for a term beginning immediately and expiring January 31, 2028.

Commissioner Rousseau moved to approve the nomination from the Fayette County Democratic Party to appoint Kellie Hooper to the Fayette County Board of Elections for a term beginning immediately and expiring January 31, 2028. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

Hot Projects

Mr. Rapson stated that he provided the Board with the Hot Topics with updates to the Parks and Recreation Multi-Use Facility, multipurpose facility, Darren Drive culvert replacement, Cross Creek culvert replacement, Brandon Mill Circle culvert replacement, Justice Center buildout, Kenwood Road, Morning Creek Bridge, and the Crosstown Generator Project.

Assistant County Administrator

Mr. Rapson also acknowledged that this month was the Assistant County Administrator, Jason Tinsley's one year anniversary with Fayette County, and noted that it had been great having him.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

There were three items for Executive Session. Two items involving pending litigation and the review of the June 25, 2026 Executive Session Minutes.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Commissioner Rousseau

Commissioner Rousseau asked whether Mr. Tinsley had successfully completed his probationary period. Mr. Rapson confirmed that he had completed probation and was performing well. Commissioner Rousseau thanked Mr. Tinsley and described him as a welcome addition to the county organization.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Two items involving pending litigation and the review of the June 25, 2026 Executive Session Minutes.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 5:09 p.m. and returned to Official Session at 6:00 p.m.

Return to Official Session and Approval to Sign the Executive Session Affidavit: Commissioner Oddo moved to return to Official Session and for the Chairman to sign the Executive Session Affidavit. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

Approval of the June 25, 2026 Executive Session Minutes: Commissioner Oddo moved to approve June 25, 2026 Executive Session Minutes. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to adjourn the July 9, 2026, Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Maxwell was absent.

The July 9, 2026 Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Lee Hearn, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 23rd day of July 2026. Attachments are available upon request at the County Clerk's Office.

Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk